

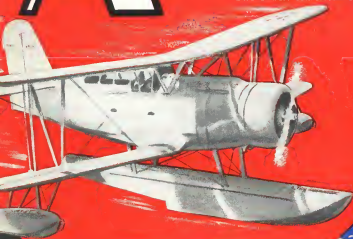
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AVIATION for December, 1936

The First

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PACIFIC PROGRESS

By Daniel Sayre

For Aviation Magazine



AFTER the great editorial and journalistic splurges that attended the opening of The Alaskan Airways trans-Pacific air mail service last fall and the resumption of its trans-Pacific passenger service last month, it might seem there was little left to be written on the subject. However, between those two events intervened a period of questions about which little has ever been published. It was a period of pioneering a slide-down period, a period in which a thousand technical aspects of one of the country's boldest enterprises had to be perfected in the crucible of half a million miles of transport flying across the world's widest ocean. It is in that period that we offer the following rather fragmentary comments.

For the sake of the record, it is possibly worthwhile noting the actual achievement at crossing. November 22 of last year the China Clipper made what was not only the first round trip over air mail, but also the first complete flight of the route between San Francisco and Manila, the narrow ship Pan American Clipper having penetrated only as far as Guam. December 9 the

Philippine Clipper, which had just arrived on the Pacific Coast, likewise made a successful trip over the full route. As an entirely tentative working basis, it was planned to run two round-trips each month for a preliminary period of approximately six months, although the terms of the mail contract and the requirements of the Post Office mail would have been satisfied under a considerably less rigorous arrangement.

The trouble started. On Dec. 22 the China Clipper, flying a Coast Route course toward Honolulu, was forced to turn back to Alaska because it had encountered head winds up to 45 miles an hour for almost its entire trip and winds of even greater force were reported ahead of it. For some days the wind conditions continued. Then Jan. 5, while taxing out of the hulkwater at Alameda for a check flight, the China Clipper struck a submerged obstruction that had been washed into the channel from one of the vast ice fields forcing the breakwater, and had to be laid up in the shop for extensive repairs to its hull. Meanwhile a complete engine change had been started

take off for a crossing. And then once more it was forced back by a repetition of the head-wind situation of December 22.

It was a string of disappointments that would have broken the hearts of a band of angels. Finally on February 23 the China Clipper got through to Honolulu and completed a rearing on schedule flight over the entire route. The Philippines successfully followed a March 16. Each ship made a non-stop round-trip in April.

Then in May the long-awaited and finally-arrived Hiram Clipper was able to take up its share of the operations. Three round trips were completed in May, four in June, and four in July. Since that period a schedule of weekly departures from Alameda each Wednesday was set with the approval of the Post Office Department and ran through schedule in time until early November when an extra survey flight from Manila to the Chinese Coast covered a two-day postponement of a scheduled departure.

So much for the trip-by-trip record. Together with the survey flights of the Pan American Clippers and routine test and training flights along the California coast, the actual sailing down by the big ships over the Pacific passed the half-million mile mark early in October. After the mid-winter delays there was little more to star the record. There have been two or three instances of minor motor difficulty—one considerable delay in Manila as the early spring re-starting engine parts to be forwarded on the following Clipper. There have been occasional delays on the Western end of the route of a day or two due to typhoons or other severe weather squalls—more to the credit than to the debit side of the operation, since they were proof of the effectiveness of the system's lightest touch in the Western Pacific.

The inauguration of air mail service had been hailed by the country's newspapers as a "first herald conquest of the Pacific." Those familiar with the difficulties of procuring any air transport system knew that it was nothing of the sort. There were so many things that it still had to be worked out and perfected that it was almost impossible to even list them all in the space of a magazine article.

The big Clippers themselves were a new departure in aircraft design. Pilots have found that the low center of gravity resulting from the use of the lower hull and sea weight for fuel storage combined with the hydrodynamic qualities of the sea weight make them handle beautifully under all sorts of water surface conditions. Especially when being controlled by the Sperry artificial pilot they have proven very smooth riding in rough air. They have carried, on every one of their flights, within a few hundred pounds of their maximum rated gross load of 22,000 pounds through the whole operation. The engines, 1800 hp 14 cylinder P&W Wasps, after the first few months, have given very little trouble and carry the Clippers at good cruising speeds over the long California-Honolulu stage at slightly less than 50 per cent of power.

Maintenance schedules, of course, has been a major problem, with only three aircraft available for the task of flying weekly schedules over an 8200 mile voyage. Under such a regime a ship leaving Alameda on a Wednesday arrives in Manila the following Monday night. The following Tuesday morning it begins its return journey arriving in Alameda the following Tuesday morning at approximately noon. From Tuesday noon until the following Wednesday afternoon the big ships must be completely inspected and serviced. Two of the four engines are changed every three trips. The ship must undergo a long test flight on the Tuesday preceding each flight and a second one the morning of the day of departure. Even this brief overhaul period is cut down substantially by the full amount of any delay the ship may have experienced on its previous flight, since the character of the route prohibits make-up of lost distance en route. To match the task the maintenance department has paired experienced and skilled crews at each of the island stations to give each clipper the full benefit of their services at each mid-Pacific over-night stop. At Manila the Clippers are drawn out of the water and are thoroughly checked in a completely equipped nose-hanger. At Alameda staff facilities have been planned down to the last detail to eliminate any lost motion whatever. A large force of mechanics is departmentalized and specialized in the work so that within an hour after a Clipper has arrived it is in the shop and being worked on by several dozen men,

each going about a familiar and preplanned assignment. Aside of every maintenance crew on the division are the four big working platforms, two at Alameda and two at Manila, that are moved under each wing to speed the work. No more washing ladders there. Each is a complete and highly specialized workshop in itself. Their big top decks have work benches containing specialized tools, special receptacles to fit around propellers and engine, electric and compressed air outlets, pumps for oil drainage and so on. Beneath are air compressors, tanks, compartments for cleaning equipment, even and laterally a kitchen sink for the use of the crew who specialize in keeping the Clipper clean in quick and spot shape. Through the year an ample maintenance (Turn to page 67)



The Philippines Clipper being hoisted at shipyard



A technician works on the engine of the China Clipper



A crane lifts the engine of the China Clipper

on the Philippines Clipper in reputation of the successful arrival of the third ship, the Hiram Clipper, from the factory at Baltimore. Now, that the China Clipper was laid up anyway, it was decided to change its engine also. The plan however had been made without due regard for the rigors of the climate of Eastern America. One of the severest winters in Maryland history held the Hiram Clipper sequestered from open water in Chesapeake Bay for long weeks. Not until February 13th did a Clipper, once more the China,



Pan American Airways base at Wake



Pacific Warships pass the lights



Collector being packed on a Pacific Island

With all the world building airplanes of a constantly accelerating rate, the S.A.E. could have selected no more interesting subject than production for its Pacific Coast Meeting. The high spots of the seven sessions are presented here.

DESIGN for PRODUCTION

The first of two reports prepared by Edward P. Warner

IF EVIDENCE were wanted to support the art of airplane design consists of drawing pretty pictures with plenty of words, the audience at the Society of Automotive Engineers' annual production meeting in Los Angeles provided it. They provided it by attending the sessions in numbers that fairly bulged the walls of the largest meeting room available, and by their repeated attention to papers that put the production man and his problem up against me that inspired upon the designer the primary responsibility of making it possible for production to be easy and economical.

There were seven sessions, three were fifteen papers, three papers represented seven factories, a research laboratory, two airlines, the Navy and the Department of Commerce; and their contents ranged from the specification of the values of air to the great problem of how to dampen a designer's relief on his neighbors in a sleep.

Spot Welding Secrets

The seven-part production men grew most excited when Brian Burns of Northrup took down the bars of secrecy around several years of private development of spot welding in light alloys, as

Mr. Steward has done in AVIATION (for August, September, and October), and talked of welding practice and equipment. There had been plenty of progress in the past. Mr. Burns was not sure of its rate in the future. He raised his assumption of a controlling position to the assembly of primary structures with track design close to for as stainless steel became a primary structural element, spot welding would of course be the accepted production method. "I'll readily concede the aluminum alloys find their way into primary structures of aircraft, welding techniques applied to them, and design attention necessary criteria, spot welding will here find an important place," but the effect of force required was a large one.

Of the usefulness of spot welding in obtaining the fuselage and wing

of fabrication of light alloys for secondary, and increased numbers there could be made no doubt. To go beyond that calls for many improvements in equipment and materials. Mr. Burns wanted not only automatic control of heating of the weld, but also an automatic measurement of the heat as



Variable range of weld thicknesses in terms of sheet thickness.

AVIATION December, 1939

thly developed in making it. The former is commonplace, but makers of welding equipment who discussed the paper gave little consideration to association with the latter objective. They discussed also from Mr. Burns' desire for a synchronized operation of two or more machines from a single timer. It would be done, as fact, it had been, but the manufacturers' first judgment was against it. Mr. Burns also made a great plea for improved electrode materials, which a representative of Westinghouse said was he could soon have.

Mr. Burns gave the full type of welder, making either a continuous wave or an automatically spaced series of spots, more attention than it has generally received. Limited in application to straight lines and reasonably open sections, it allowed great speed, up to high as 1,600 spots per minute. Care as quoted in this paper mapped out modes by the figures suggested by Mr. Steward in his lecture, running as low as 900 spot per spot where a full welder could be used and up to 3 cents at most with the single-electrode type.

Particularly interesting was a chart in which Mr. Burns indicated allowable range of weld characteristics in terms of sheet thickness. It appeared, for example, that the diameter of a welding spot should be about three times the thickness of the sheet welded when the thickness approached $\frac{1}{16}$ in, but not relatively to more than five times the thickness when the sheet was as low as 0.010 in. Though the properties of the weld and of the material must be reasonably controlled, as the chart showed, Mr. Burns was more concerned about extreme types of welding conditions than some of his predecessors here. He had welded successfully materials from 0.005 in up to $\frac{1}{16}$ in, and in connection with stainless steel, at least, he thought that recent mechanical improvements "probably render

them substantially free from such precipitation as may cause the weld joint to be weakened by its in production work." This is contrary to the view of some of machine steel's foremost advocates, that absolute avoidance of timing is the best requirement for a satisfactory weld.

Points brought out in the discussion, most of it coming from General Electric and Westinghouse, were that good voltage regulation was most essential than was sometimes recognized; that operation at 500 volts was superior to any lower figure, and that spots must not be placed very close together and thus made in a straight line order along the row, as they would accumulate with other T. P. Wright, of General Electric, urged the importance of spot welding for aerodynamic purposes, showing complete surface smoothness. More aggressive than the paper's author, Mr. Wright thought spot welding "ought" to be made for primary structure having all



H. H. Ford, Thomas Threlkeld, E. H. Hughes and Edward Hughes

pattern, which in turn would be suited to form by hand under the designer's eye or strapped to form with templates made from drawings, and with a rule die of lead placed directly into the inside die of the mold, the difference of making part of the two metals gas-welding alloying. Where dies were to be used for but a single set-up, passing directly on the turn of the hammer was recommended, then the holding themselves into the holes in the steel and onto the bolts projecting from the upper hand or hammering it.

As an example of the production economy that results from the use of the hammer and dies so pointed, Mr. Pradler took a bolt nut made by hand that took 30 hours of labor and wasn't much good there. The weight of steel and lead thus made it possible to replace the hand-made part with its perfect and identical one hammered out on a total of fifteen minutes.

In general, while "the displacement means that the cost of the hammer there is usually any learning operation in the completion of sheet metal that cannot be accomplished by the hammer." It is not "that assembly because a plunger against a headstock" but to prevent the hammer from making a headstock than it carries it should be removed in the finished set-up of the shop, where the steel that went there to its welding will be lost.

Mr. Houghton also saw the picture of the hammer, but with reference to forming of fittings rather than in forming of sheet. Mr. Houghton called and fittings could be replaced in advantage in many cases by light alloy forgings, with saving of weight and elimination of electrolytic corrosion differences. A problem of fatigue under the hammer in the large draft angle required, not less than 7 deg. for removal of the part from the die, but that problem is solved with the draft angle reduced to less than half a degree, and the use of hot process under enormous pressure. Both the die and the machine equipment for hot pressing being very



Frank Foster, Electric Research Co., talks over his work.

ready made an apparatus, and for manually severe conditions imposed as rugged and NACA costs.

Soups by drop hammer

Howard D. Houghton of Douglas, George H. Pradler of Lockheed, and R. A. Van Hise, also of Lockheed, all talked at the solution of design to production equipment. Mr. Pradler spoke with authority of the range of usefulness of a drop hammer forming parts in solid metal. He recommended a fuselage die of steel cast directly on a plaster



Thunder Working and other difficult welding conditions in practice

expensive, their use is necessarily limited to maintain that as to go into large production, and in general, the production methods stress the separation of designing to new structural elements at as many different points of a given mission as possible. Mr. Houghley said it does not seem a universal rule "that if a part was in the aircraft from the start for limited production, it can easily be converted to a design for large production."

The Von Kármán paper drilled upon the experience of careful planning of layout, layout and tooling and upon the experience especially in a medium size factory of getting machine tools designed to adapt themselves to many different jobs and in a wide range of working materials. Plastic process, drag burners, and hydraulic presses were the most important of the specialized tools. With the factory now equipped, the author recommended that tooling be kept as close as possible needed, with all jigs, fixtures, and tool designs and drawings handled through a central agency.

Skills with Queen Mary steel plants

In a section devoted to design in the broader sense, and not merely to production aspects, J. K. Ball, chief of stress analysis for Boeing, presented a reserve critique on "Problems in the Design and Construction of Large Aircraft," written by R. J. Mitchell, chief engineer, Ford D. Lancaster, and Mr. Ball, himself. Boeing experience was reviewed from the 1925 biplane, first use of the streamlined, cantilevered, monoplane, down to date. The authors declared that uncovering all aspects of the two-span wing construction with great, mild stress spans as against the cantilever type. As they held up the longer airplanes they would still use the same structural practices that they had approved over the past seven years.

Though they found large airplanes possibly difficult in some respects, usually in their low frequencies of vibration and consequent likelihood to resonance with forest products, they found also some special advantages. In particular they expected large spans greatly to reduce trouble with stalling at the tip as highly tapered wings. Some of the improvements present doubted that and demanded proof not as yet forthcoming.

The authors opposed control of large airplanes through mechanical controlling gear totally separate from the engine themselves and recommended rather the use of servo tabs. Boeing had found these tabs very successful, and likely to be acceptable for all large airplanes now in sight. Several conclusions to increase leading power were

also proposed and compressed air had been used, giving plenty of power but no convenient way to get it. The Boeing four-engine tandem the simplest against braking power had been of course rather than of deficiency, as the wheels could slide, be slid with very bad results on the taxi.

Structural design of the largest airplanes must be based more on regularity than on ultimate strength. Boeing's practice preferred full stress members to the stress webs used by other manufacturers in their wing spars, it employed tubular elements as far as possible, it kept the thickness of the spar skin of a wing at least half that of the overwrapped material members underlying, in the interest of good torsional strength and to reduce wrinkles in the skin under stress. Another making conclusion from Boeing experience was the comparison of conventional methods of column calculation based on the yield point of material, the three tubes indicated column strength for steel tubes that followed (as the tube gave length) a particular formula based on ultimate strength instead of yield point.

Another structural point especially critical on the large airplane was set forth in the necessity of studying upper and lower stress and the influence for the structural stresses produced by the curvature resulting from the deflection of the wing in a climb, and another was the great loading which might develop on the ground when an airplane was towed into first around the corner of a building during a gale, or otherwise, not the wind at an angle well calculated to tear the tail surfaces loose from their hinges. Moment coefficients of at least 1.00 for the elevator and 1.2 for the aileron were recommended to meet this last situation.

As an example of the decline of natural frequency with increasing size and its consequent increasing gravity as a design problem, figures were given for a number of airplanes. For a six-engine, the natural frequency as a 2,000 ft. airplane was 1,750 cycles of vibration per second. In a machine of ten engines that weight it had fallen to 650 and the increased liability to resonance, other things being equal, would be obvious.

In conclusion, the authors observed that the type of plane should have related to "larger" than to "large" aircraft, for they felt that the large airplane of today would be "not a stepping stone to airplanes of immense proportions." Products of the present type would disappear and all components and load would be based within the same size of the wing. They also believed "that the flying boat has no future as far as size at the present time." They

projected into the future led to a lively discussion, and in some particulars of which the most conservative comment from the advocates of dynamic loading as a better supposition. Dr. Klein of the California Institute of Technology thought irreversibility desirable if applied only at the control area, as the aileron or elevator could factor as a servo within its own span. He believed in balancing both aerodynamically and dynamically by elements, so that each little segment along the span would be completely balanced within itself. Basic authorities were quoted as favoring both irreversibility of controls and dynamic balancing, but the latter was sufficient by itself. Mr. Ball found at least that balancing was not sufficient, so it could be valid with respect to only one particular set of axes.

Edward Klein of Douglas doubted any necessity of using servo tabs for controlling until the weight went well beyond 30,000 lb. He counted on accurate aerodynamic balancing to give light control by the ordinary direct linkage up to that point, or even higher. He noted the contrary call upon servo actuators to produce proper placement of higher wing output for those very large airplanes, and he suggested by implication with his associate, Mr. Houghman, as suggesting steel springs for linkages, where Mr. Houghman had wanted to do away with steel and use light alloys throughout.

It is a question about ground handling of large airplanes, Mr. Ball noted that there had been no trouble with the landing or when more on the ground, but some difficulty in landing because of the landing problem already referred to and the amount of sliding of the whole that took place when it had failed to stop. They were agreeing at a proper speed with steady rolling.

Box car or dog's palace

Arthur R. Raymond, chief engineer of Douglas, disagreed from his printed paper long enough to express agreement with Mr. Ball and his associates at least on the importance of new design any paper first to the useful size of flying boats; but Mr. Raymond's paper was concerned more with passenger comfort (box with several seats) (Continued on page 42)

ON TOP

Airline operation up to 15,000 ft. now involves little difficulty. Beyond that point mechanical and physiological troubles multiply rapidly, but reliable economies are so attractive that many an airline is considering means of pushing operating ceilings up toward the 30,000 ft. level. Here is the record of TWA's high altitude research to date, by the man who has been doing the work.

By B. W. Tomlinson

Assistant to the President
Transcontinental & Western Air Inc.

WHICH TWA decided to undertake its investigation of high altitude flying, two planes were available—a single engine *Norfolk Gamma* and "BOB", the bi-engine DC-1, fast Douglas transport to be built. The performance of other planes at altitude is approximately the same, but obviously the cost of operating the Gamma would be far less than that for the DC-1. The value of steady altitude, however, lies in the completeness and accuracy of data obtained during the flights. It is impossible for a pilot to fly an airplane normally with the gear positioned consistently in high speed and, at the same time, observe many instruments and record data. The DC-1 is fairly cheap because it could carry a crew sufficient to divide the duties of observing and recording data. Also at this plane is equipped with an automatic pilot, the pilot is free to handle the engine controls, a job which a large airplane at low altitude of the nature contemplated, demands constant attention.

Since it was desired that the airplane be capable of operating with



normal gross load (18,000 lb.) at 25,000 ft. or above (approximately the altitude ceiling for the DC-1 with *Gamma* 3-5 engines) a higher degree of supercharging was necessary, and two Wright Cyclone F-55 engines equipped with two-speed boosters, having a critical altitude in high speed lower rate of 16,000 ft., were installed. These engines not only gave an absolute ceiling for the plane at about 30,000 ft., but also permitted cruising operation at constant power (1500 hp max) from sea level to 20,000 ft. This was essential in order that data could be obtained to show the actual decrease in velocity of the airplane with increase in altitude with power maintained constant, for comparison with the theoretical increase upon which predictions have been made

concerning operation on the streamlines.

In order to obtain best propeller and engine efficiency, Hineslow Standard controllable with constant speed governors were installed (See *AVIATION*, September, 1934). The governors were set to hold the engine at any desired rpm and, during periods the engine is operated at maximum efficiency for any desired condition from full to cruising power. The constant weight hydrofoil wheels limit the pitch angle were also changed to increase the pitch range to 20 deg. instead of the normal 10 deg. of the standard two-position type. The high pitch of the standard two-position propellers is 30 deg. In order to hold the engine rpm without causing loads at 20,000 ft., and above, the high pitch limit of the constant speed propellers



Planner goes on duty—this Douglas DC-1

was set to 28 deg., noticeably higher than actually necessary.

Mixture control

The combination of highly supercharged engines and constant speed propellers made it necessary to provide accurate means of controlling fuel-air mixture at altitude, in order to obtain either best power or best economy, as circumstances required. No automatic mixture control has yet been perfected which will take care of conditions down the entire altitude of the engine for cruising power. A safety indicator that the most suitable device available was one which, by means of a Wheatstone bridge, reflected the change of conductivity of a wire heated by the exhaust gases of the engine. The conductivity is dependent on temperature which, in turn, is dependent on the relative amount of CO and CO₂ in the exhaust gas. These two factors relate directly to the fuel-air ratio entering the cylinders. Thus, the galvanometer in the Wheatstone bridge may be calibrated to read directly the fuel-air ratio of the mixture entering the engine.

Another necessary feature was the use of a carburetor air pre-heater system which, in the low temperatures of high altitudes, would prevent accurate control of the intake air temperature as well as insure freedom from ice in the carburetor. This was accomplished by installing a new system with two resistance tubes, one in each section of the exhaust manifold, with the hot air outlets of the carburetor arranged on each side. Two valves were mounted in such a manner as to insure equal distribution of the heat in the four carburetor jet nozzles. In order that accurate check might be made of carburetor conditions, thermocouples were installed near each venturi and a temperature bulb, installed in the intake line between the carburetor and the supercharger in-

jector. These temperature gauges were an addition to the usual supercharger bulb in the carburetor air pump. A constant bulb was also provided in the carburetor air pump for a Kollsman sensitive altimeter. The reading of this altimeter in relation to the plane's altimeter, determined the amount of air. Thus all factors necessary for accurate determination of power under any conditions could be observed.

Early in the high altitude program the two venturi pumps used for driving the gyro instruments had been considered to be installed in order to maintain sufficient vacuum in order to maintain sufficient operation of the gyro instruments. Preliminary flights would only use pump lead, thereby a loss of vacuum to the point where the gyro instruments and the automatic pilot could not be relied upon. With the two pumps in parallel, 2 in. of vacuum per inch was maintained up to 20,000 ft.

The Oxygen Problem

A major consideration was the supply of oxygen sufficient for a crew of four (pilot, co-pilot, observer and radio engineer) at altitudes above 20,000 ft. Oxygen can be obtained in two forms—gaseous and liquid. Liquid oxygen, compressed to 750 atmospheres, gives the largest amount of oxygen for a given container weight and capacity, but is subject to constant loss due to evaporation. It was desired to carry both forms, liquid oxygen as the main supply for use on long flights, and gaseous oxygen for short flights and as an emergency reserve when using liquid oxygen. A liquid oxygen container of the type which is commonly used for the supply of this supply would suffice for a crew of two for at least two hours. The only reporter obtainable was one having an evaporating capacity sufficient for two men, but no supply was provided to give the desired supply by directing the entire hot

air blast from the cabin radiator against the coils of the vaporizer. This additional heat produced enough passive oxygen for a crew of four at 20,000 ft. and a crew of three at 27,000 ft.

Outfitting the cockpit

Two gaseous oxygen containers of 18 cubic capacity were carried, connected one at a time to the four-seat, manifold system in the cockpit. One of these tanks was ample for a crew of three at 20,000 ft. for approximately one hour. It was soon found that breathing liquid oxygen gas directly from the vaporizer through the mask installed in the last of flights in the tank due to contraction of the fabric mask. To prevent this, the gaseous oxygen from the vaporizer was led through the coil around the steam pipe leading to the cockpit interior, and the temperature of the oxygen kept out from the breathing supply was brought up to 60 deg.

The output of the liquid oxygen vaporizer is controlled by a valve at the end of the relief line from the liquid oxygen container. A pressure gauge is fitted on the line. By closing the valve and shutting off the output of the oxygen which continuously evaporates in the container, pressure is built up and liquid oxygen is forced up into the coils of the vaporizer. The rate at which the liquid oxygen is forced into the coils is governed by the pressure in the container. With the valve completely closed, pressure builds up to approximately 9 ft. Full pressure is required to produce enough oxygen for a crew of four but 5 ft. is adequate for three. Using this system the oxygen supply of the plane has been sufficient for upwards of three hours at altitude above 20,000 ft.

Which has already been written on the effect of oxygen deficiency on the human system. Our work with the DC-1 has not added a great deal to the fund

of knowledge in this report, but several points are worth noting. It is rapid descent from altitude after prolonged breathing of oxygen with the tube in the mouth, an opening of the carburetor to supplement adjustment of the mixture to discharge in pressure is noticed. Also, an experienced pilot suffering from lack of oxygen will continue to do a reasonable good job long after his mental faculties have suffered seriously. This is dangerous because he does not realize his loss in mental efficiency and is relied upon to solve a problem of outstanding original thought. A pilot with many thousands of hours flying experience, especially one who flies by instruments with the same ease as an inexperienced pilot, is equally susceptible without mental effort. At altitudes where a non-reflective pilot would lose control of his plane, due to the lack of oxygen, the automatic pilot functions properly, although lost from the start up. The pilot who must reason his way out of a situation will lose control at much lower altitudes than the man who flies by plane without conscious effort. Perhaps some workable research could be carried out on an altitude chamber with a device such as the tank burner installed inside. The effect of altitude could then be put on a more practical basis than is now possible in chamber tests.

Duties of the crew

On test flights the pilot did the plane himself, the engine and controls the automatic pilot adjusted, and the engine a gas with the constant speed governor controls, maintain the desired manifold pressure when the thrust was set, and the automatic controls set proper using the fuel-air ratio analyzer as a guide. He wears a special mask in which a microphone is installed so that he can talk to ground stations

without the necessity of removing the oxygen tube from his mouth. The co-pilot, seated on the right-hand side of the cockpit, observes and records the following indicated signals: carburetor air temperature, oil temperature of engines, cylinder head temperatures on each side, vacuum, gyro pilot oil pressure, fuel pressure, carburetor vent and fuel flow. Immediately behind the pilot stands the constant observer who records the following: time, standard pressure altitude, outside air temperature, engine r.p.m., manifold pressure, and other special data being recorded such as exhaust manifold leak pressure, pressure in various pipes in the engine manifold, carburetor vent temperatures and fuel/air ratio indicator. When correct operation of automatic pilot equipment is under test and records pertinent data.

Navigational problems

Above 20,000 ft. accurate navigation by ground reference points is difficult. At higher altitudes it is impossible to tell with the necessary accuracy the time of passing over landmarks by simply looking out the window. In some very high altitudes, such altitudes, the cockpit windows are so covered with frost that the plane must be flown by instruments. It is often necessary to use a special Galt drift indicator in use. The drift and all lines of the indicator have been supplemented by three altitudes—two—the middle one being at the center of the instrument. This enables an observer not only to determine the drift angle, but also to determine accurately the time of passage over a landmark.

Radio beams, and ground stations, are used to determine accurate position points at high altitude for extremely accurate navigation. Cases of altitude are found in low one way or another away from the station of origin and the beam lines suffer similar distortion. This is not serious in normal transport operation at lower levels. Radio navigation, except when some form of navigation is used, is not possible at altitudes above 20,000 ft. No altitudes above 20,000 ft. are used as a check reference on all flights.

Wind drift

Free data are generally available for winds above 20,000 ft. Therefore whenever practical, the winds at high levels have been studied by observation of ground objects, true altitude and drift angle, using the automatic Galt drift indicator. No extreme winds have been encountered. The direction at 25,000 ft. has been observed on various occasions. In west, northeast and southeast, in each case the direction of the wind was that to be expected from the pressure distribution at the time. On several flights the force of the winds above 20,000 ft. was relatively low. The force at lower levels from the same direction. It has been concluded that the force and direction of the winds between 20,000 and 30,000 feet may be expected to follow generally the known laws of the winds in relation to pressure areas.

An interesting phase of the high altitude flying has been the experience over and through storm conditions at altitudes above 20,000 ft. The first high altitude flight of the DC-1 was from Kansas City to Detroit in July, leaving Kansas City we climbed steadily to a 20,000 ft. altitude. The clouds were low, the Galt indicator, a large storm center lying to the east and eastward appeared slowly over Cleveland could be seen. The top of this storm in its western flank was at 20,000 ft. and was gradually rising to 25,000 ft. near 10,000 miles west of Detroit. To the east, dense, protruded above the general cloud layer indicating local squall sections of near-thunderstorm proportions. The tops of these clouds were situated at 30,000 ft. The temperature in the clear air above the storm was 8 deg. F. (Detroit was about 30 miles west of Detroit. At 20,000 ft. indicated, with outside air temperature at 20 deg., heavy clear ice was encountered. It formed rapidly while descending through the lower level, down to 17,000 ft. Below 17,000 ft. the temperature rose to 40 deg. and the ice melted rapidly. The solid super layer extended at 15,000 ft. below which the usual, stratocumulus cloud layers were encountered. This appeared to be a typical summer storm condition not involving severe thunderstorms.

Operating out of Kansas City several times the minimum was encountered. It was found that the level levels of



The new transcontinental laboratory

such storms take their roots in the recently turbulent clouds having the general storm top at about 25,000 ft. The plane was driven directly through one such thunderhead at 26,000 ft. The temperature on the ground at Kansas City at the time was 100 deg. F. The temperature within the airtail head was 5 deg. F. The cloud seemed to consist of very fine snow and some water particles which froze and formed an open sleet with the plane. Each water particle formed a circular ring of ice about 1/8 in. to 1/4 in. diameter, but no appreciable amount of ice formed. The air in the airtail head was apparently rising at 500 ft. per minute according to the rate of climb indicator. No descending current was encountered. The airtail head was traversed on a south-east heading (course heading) and it took about four minutes at a speed of approximately 150 m.p.h. Thus the distance through the cloud was about 10 miles. The upper covering of the airtail head was toward the south. The under surface of this overlying portion of the cloud was estimated to be about 30,000 ft. and the ultimate top of the storm probably reached to 35,000 ft., or into the base of the stratosphere. Observations indicated that the top at the turbulent clouds connecting the two detourings along the advancing wind shift line were at about 25,000 ft., at which altitude a plane could have just cleared the windshield line staying "on top."

On the flight of the DC-1 from Kansas City to Newark, in August, crossing for the most part at 27,000 ft., we had excellent view of the tropical hurricane which had moved up the east coast and was then centered roughly over Virginia and the Carolinas. The upper canopy or corona strata cloud massing from this storm reached over western New York State. The top of this canopy was shaped like a giant umbrella. The top at the center was estimated at 35,000 ft. This and traces at the outer fringe, this canopy of cirrus cloud thickened until it passed over southern New Jersey at about 25,000 ft. in a various looking mass of airy air which appeared black, purple and almost green in places. This canopy top about 150 miles or more south at the center of the plane to Newark. From the central mechanism a lower layer spread out in all directions tapering downward from 25,000 ft. at the center to about 15,000 ft. over central Pennsylvania. This secondary layer became broken about 100 miles out from the center and disappeared entirely within another 10 to 20 miles. The DC-1 began descent through this secondary layer about south of Philadelphia. Intermediate layer and scattered clouds were found below 18,000 ft., which condition continued with increasing care the remainder of the way into Newark.

The wind over Indiana, Illinois and Ohio held steady at about 25 m.p.h. as the storm was approached. From west

ern Pennsylvania, where the plane entered the influence of the storm the wind picked up to about 30 m.p.h. and became more northerly as the plane progressed outward.

Where ice was found

As a result of these observations it is concluded that severe weather conditions involving considerable turbulence and heavy icing may be found all the way up to the base of the stratosphere. In general, however, a plane flying at 35,000 ft. can remain on top of the cloud massing at about 25,000 ft. in a flight of 1,800 miles or over (half way across the continent) detecting 50 to 100 miles to either side of the front count does not involve a serious loss of time.

With the aid of the DC-1 the high altitude program was continued using the Northern Gemini equipped with a special Wright Cyclone engine and an exhaust heat exchanger. Approximately twenty hours of flight ending at altitudes up to 35,000 ft. have been carried out using this aircraft. The oxygen system with the Gemini permits flight at up to the DC-1.

The Gemini carries a crew of two, a pilot and an observer. The observer rides at a cockpit seat forward of the pilot's cockpit. In the observer's cockpit there is a complete set of engine flight instruments to interpret data that is obtained by photographing the instruments based using a Leica camera. The observer takes pictures at predetermined altitudes and later the films are developed and the actual data recorded from the film. This has been found to be the only practical way of obtaining a simultaneous reading of the 25 instruments.

Winds at stratosphere base

In order to accurately determine surface winds and the force and direction of the wind at high levels the plane has been flown around a tropical storm from Kansas City to Kalamazoo in Columbia and return. This triangle is 116 miles. It is marked by radio beacons which permit the engine to be flown on instruments or on top. In this way the calculated speed of the air plane at altitudes up to 35,000 feet has been checked within two miles per hour of the true airspeed, reduced from the indicated airspeed. When vehicles up to 60 m.p.h. have been observed under favorable conditions. It is proposed to fly this course while extreme winter storm conditions exist at low levels in order to determine wind velocities at the base of the stratosphere during these conditions.

AVIATION
December, 1935

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December, 1935



Practical Uses of PROPELLER BRAKES

By Raymond B. Quick*

Director of Air Commerce

As pointed out in a long recent flight, the propeller brake provides weight advantage for at least one extra person. The brake also has been very beneficial for reduction of landing speeds. On recent test with a large four-engine flying boat it was shown that there is considerable clearance of air flow from windmilling engines, allowing the bit of the wing surfaces and the flow over the tail surfaces. With two engines windmilling, a marginal condition of controllability existed during the glide and at the time of landing on the water. The range of stallable wing was from 4 deg. positive to 3 deg. negative from the glide to landing. With the same two engines stopped, the wing was a marked increase of control and the range of the stallable wing was from 3 deg. positive to only 1 deg. negative with a decrease in landing speed of 6.7 m.p.h. At the point of landing the controllability was much more noticeable when the propellers were braked in addition the tail section vibration from disturbed airflow with windmilling propellers was completely lacking.

Another important detail is the increase of controllability, longitudinally and directionally, when the windmilling propeller is stopped. Less rudder is necessary to maintain directional flight when the dead engine is braked and, as shown in the illustration, as the wing area behind the propeller disk area is not impaired. This little

or no adverse braking is necessary to maintain lateral flight on an even keel. Therefore, when a landing made at the destination desired after completion of a flight with a stopped engine, there will be an increased amount of maneuvering. This is especially true in aircraft wing flaps so most of the flap area is directly behind the engine.

In addition to these benefits, there is an increase in safety resulting from the use of propeller brakes. Even with a most prepared report for the products of one engine manufacturer we must be prepared for the unexpected. The safety of every airplane depends so much on engine factors, that it is useless to not consider any accident that will not violate experience.

In three-engine flight it is almost impossible to consider landing on the open sea, especially at night, for the purpose of making repairs to a disabled engine and it is imperative that the aircraft be able to maintain flight after losing one or even two engines. Unless the disabled engine is completely stopped, undesirable vibrations set up by the windmilling propeller or the unbalanced condition of the engine will be at least annoying to passengers.

The propeller brake has been considered favorably by all aircraft manufacturers, but the constantly increasing engine which has become more or less required, has created serious objection to anything that might weaken the weight saving. The value of using propeller brakes is at present a matter to be decided on by the safety engineer and the carrier of his insurance.

*The development of propeller brakes, which I have discussed in this article, has been the result of the efforts of the Air Transport Committee in the development of the Airplane Emergency Landing Procedure, which is now being used by all airlines.



Engine safety ready for a flight. Left to right: Raymond B. Quick, the writer; Meritt Smith.

II.

Ultimate Maximum Speed at Altitude

The second of a series of articles discussing the upper limits of airplane performance. Future articles will cover range and ceiling

How FAST?

IN our first paper of this series, we presented a study of the possibilities of the high speed which can be obtained by racing airplanes at sea level. During recent years in our transportation, higher speeds and greater economies for the same power have been obtained by transport airplanes operating at altitudes other than sea level. It appears only logical, therefore, that if we were to fly our racing planes at altitudes other than at sea level, we would be sure likely to benefit and therefore to raise present record speeds. It is interesting to calculate the ultimate high speed which could be reached at any altitude by an airplane designed for ultimate performance at that altitude.

Cost of speed at altitude

In the earlier paper, we gave the equation by which the high speed of an airplane in level flight could be calculated neglecting the effects of induced drag. This equation can be rewritten as follows:

$$V = 325 \left(\frac{h}{\rho} \right)^{1/2}$$

In order to make this equation applicable to high speed at altitude, we must consider two items: First, the effects of the decreased density in reducing the parasite drag; and second, the effect of the decreased density as increasing the induced drag which we considered to be negligible in the case of

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the racing airplane flying at sea level. The above equation then becomes

$$V = 325 \left(\frac{h}{\rho} \right)^{1/2} \epsilon$$

where ϵ is the ratio between the density at the altitude considered and that at sea level and where h is the pressure by which the maximum speed is reduced due to the increasing effect of induced drag. In the first paper, the quantity $\left(\frac{h}{\rho} \right)^{1/2}$ was called the "cost"

of speed. It will be seen from the equation for high speed at altitude that, neglecting the increasing effect of induced drag, the "cost" of speed decreases in proportion to the density ratio.

Effects of increasing altitude

In order to study the problem of high speed performance at altitude, we must

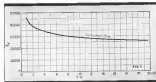
consider three important factors. First, the one already mentioned—decreased density; second, the increase in parasite drag coefficient due to the decreased Reynolds' Number; and third, the increased effect of compressibility. In Fig. 1, the plotted variation of the quantities which control these three items are plotted against altitude. The density data was taken from the data used as a standard for the comparison of performance of airplanes and is given in NACA Technical Report No. 208. A second item which must be considered is the changing scale effect with altitude which can be represented by the Reynolds' Number. The Reynolds' Number is the ratio $\left(\frac{V}{\nu} \right)$ where V

is the velocity of flight of the airplane,



ν is some characteristic length of the surface such as the wing chord, and ν is the so-called kinematic viscosity, i.e., the ratio of the absolute viscosity, divided by the density ρ .

Assuming constant speed, the variation of the Reynolds' Number with altitude for a given airplane will depend only upon the variation in kinematic viscosity, ν . The results of the calculation are shown by the appropriate curve in Fig. 1 as a ratio of Re to Re_0 , Re_0 being the Reynolds' Number at sea level. The third effect, influencing speed at altitude, is the changing viscosity of the air. The viscosity of air is proportional to the square root of absolute temperature; the variation of which is shown in Fig. 1 by the curve T and is given in degrees Fahrenheit,



altitude. Calculating the effect of the temperature on the velocity of sound, the last curve c , in Fig. 2, is obtained as the velocity of sound and is given in mph.

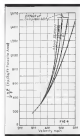
Altitude and parasite drag

The relation between the ratio of Reynolds' Number at altitude to that at sea level has been given. Its effect on lift must now be considered. If we assume an airplane with a wing chord of 4 ft



flying at 550 mph at sea level that airplane will have a Reynolds' Number of 21,000,000. This value is Re_0 . From the ratio of Re/Re_0 , given in Fig. 2, the Reynolds' Number at altitude may be calculated assuming constant speed. This has been plotted and labeled Re in Fig. 2. This will not be exactly true for most airplanes, since the velocity will change with altitude, but is sufficiently accurate for our purposes, the approximation being very close.

Dr. Th. von Kármán, in the first issue of the "Journal of Aeronautical Sciences," gave a relationship between skin friction drag coefficient and the Reynolds' Number for turbulent flow, and the portion of this relationship which concerns us is reproduced in Fig.



at sea level showing the added "cost" incurred because of compressibility. While we are considering performance at altitude, we must see what we might call the altitude "cost" of speed

$\left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \right)$ instead of $\left(\frac{h}{\rho} \right)$. Since

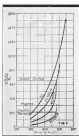
the velocity of sound decreases with altitude as shown in Fig. 1, added "cost" will be incurred as altitude over that at sea level. This varying "cost" of speed, including the effect of the decrease in velocity of sound, is plotted in Fig. 4 as the curve on the right; neglecting compressibility effects, and the other three curves give the effects of compressibility at the various altitudes noted on the curves. It is immediately apparent that as altitude is increased, instantaneous due to compressibility become much more important. Where a speed of 550 mph at sea level would be the high at sea level due to this compressibility, this limit would be reduced to 500 mph above 35,000 ft.

Induced drag

In the first portion of the paper, an equation was given which included a factor, K , which represented the percentage to which the velocity would be decreased due to induced drag. It is possible to show that as the very high altitudes, induced drag would play an extremely important part. Actually in the case of racing airplanes this decrease is not as great as might be supposed. It is impossible to calculate numerically the percentage of decrease in speed due to induced drag for all airplanes, since this factor is different for each airplane considered. There-

Sound velocity and speed

In our earlier paper, curves were presented giving the relationship between speed and the "cost" of speed, $\left(\frac{h}{\rho} \right)$.



fore, reasonable values were plotted based upon what might be considered to be an ultimate design, and variation of this factor is noted in Fig. 2.

Total "Cost" of speed at altitude

Incorporating the factors mentioned above except that of compressibility, Equation 2 may be written as follows:

$$V = 325 \left(\frac{V}{c} \right)^3 \left(\frac{L}{D} \right)^{1/2} R$$

In the equation of $\left(\frac{V}{c} \right)^3$ (three

hp/sq ft of spanned parasite area at sea level) is plotted against speed for the various altitudes, in every case reducing the speed in proportion to the effect of the compressibility. Fig. 3 is obtained. It becomes immediately apparent from this figure that as higher and higher altitudes are obtained, the "cost" of that speed becomes considerably reduced, but the maximum obtainable speed by any given airplane will also be reduced. In this figure are noted the three racing airplanes referred to in our first paper, so that the advantage which might be gained by going to altitude can be determined.

It is of interest to plot the percentage increase in maximum speed against altitude for each of these three planes. This has been done in Fig. 6, and the result is extremely interesting. In this figure, the solid lines are calculated values and the dotted lines represent a reasonable extrapolation of the solid curves to higher altitudes. Assuming constant thrust horsepower available, the extrapolations of these curves then show the maximum possible thrust to which these three racing planes could

be extended from the standpoint of speed. Along each of the curves are noted the values of $\left(\frac{V}{c} \right)^3$ and also

the speed obtained at the peak of these curves. The next interesting feature on these figures is that all three of these airplanes, as defined as design, would have maximum possible speeds within 30 miles of each other, assuming, of course, that the thrust horsepower might be maintained independently of altitude and without variation in the respective parasite areas. This, of course, is a very doubtful assumption at the very high altitudes, but there is reasonable assurance that by means of reduced density superchargers, it might be obtained at reasonably high altitudes. The maximum speeds for the three airplanes, of course, are obtained at very different altitudes.

It might be supposed from the examination of these curves that 200 mph was some magic speed which no airplane could exceed. However, in the case of the Mach-Cavalieri, a very great amount of power was obtained, but at the same time, there was noted a large loss of aerodynamic efficiency as the speed of the higher rotor, the airplane was extremely slow except for the velocity of the radial engine which, as shown in our first paper, is not practical when ultimate speeds are desired. The Mach-Cavalieri was extremely slow aerodynamically but had a comparatively small amount of power available per unit of frontal area. This of each of these three airplanes could overcome the desirable features of the others. It is a definite increase of the maximum speed could be attained.

It is apparent from the last figure that as the record speed to altitude gain, the altitude at which it will be attained will be decreased, thus, leading to the obvious conclusion that the ultimate high speed in any altitude will be attained at sea level in accordance with our first paper. This does not mean,



however, that records will not be broken by flying at altitudes above sea level. At the present state of high speed records, namely, 441 mph, it is considerably less "costly" to attain greater speeds by increasing altitude, as shown by Fig. 6, than by increasing $\left(\frac{V}{c} \right)^3$ at

sea level. Therefore, except for the complexities introduced by racing rules governing the official recognition of such record speeds, the next step is to fly these racing airplanes with additional supercharging, or closer and more powerful airplanes, at higher altitudes. Although the altitudes at which the ultimate speeds of the three racing planes would be attained are rather diverse and probably impossible with the present form of power units, none the less, even small increases in altitude will result in an increase of speeds previously attained. However, in a last analysis, the ultimate high speed will be attained at sea level and will be governed by the effect of compressibility.

Neglecting compressibility

In dealing in the realm of flying, it might be surprising to include speed which could be attained if the effect of compressibility were to be neglected. This speed can be expressed by the very simple equation

$$V = 325 \frac{P}{R} \frac{L}{D}$$

in which P is the thrust horsepower available, R is the weight of the airplane in pounds, L is the wing span in feet, and D is the equivalent parasite area in square feet. P is given in mph. This equation merely gives the speed which could be attained at the altitude at which the plane was first at the maximum lifting ratio. To the table below, values of P for the three airplanes are noted together with the altitude at which these speeds could be attained. Then again it is stressed

Plane	Thrust horsepower available (assumed)	Altitude (assumed)
MacCready	1000	10,000 ft
MacCready	2000	20,000 ft
MacCready	3000	30,000 ft

that the power could be attained independently of altitude, and at constant, constant altitude results in the calculation. We can see, however, the "cost" which must be paid in a sort of tax level by compressibility. The equation above represents the result of the maximum possible aerodynamic efficiency. This same equation will be used to advantage in a more practical calculation in the next paper which deals with the maximum range and endurance, as this equation is the key note.

Thin-Walled STRUCTURES

By F. R. Shanley

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The author of last month's article "Pounds per Square Inch" continues the interpretation of modern forms of construction on a weight-strength basis and gives us his view on future trends.

MODERN designers are concerned with two general types of failure, which were designated briefly in last month's article as "stress" failures (Type I) and "buckling" failures (Type II). Considering different shell types of structure of the same diameter and cross-sectional shape it was found that the weight-strength factors (strength being held constant) for the two leading types of failure were given by the following equations:

$$\frac{(P/F)_I}{(P/F)_I} = C \left(\frac{W}{V} \right) \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{(P/F)_I}{(P/F)_I} = C \left(\frac{W}{V} \right)^2 \quad (2)$$

In these equations W is the unit weight or density of the material, P is the failing stress or density of yield, at the same time, F is the wall-thickness modulus of slenderness which is a measure of the stiffness of the material, and C is a constant used to denote proportionality. In deriving equation (2) no

other useful equation was found, namely:

$$\frac{(P/F)_I}{(P/F)_I} = C \left(\frac{W}{V} \right)^2 \quad (3)$$

With these three formulas we can proceed to evaluate different types of construction in a general way and can possibly predict the future trend in structural designs. (The weight-strength factor should be as small as possible for the most efficient design.)

The monocoque

Let us assume that the designer has decided on the general dimensions of the structure and wishes to use a single cross-section of the shape illustrated in Fig. 1. It is true that monocoque (egg-shell type) is chosen, the question of what material is best on a weight-strength basis is usually determined by direct application of equations (1) and



Fig. 1
SOLID
SHELL



Fig. 2
SEMI-
PANEL



Fig. 3
PANEL



Fig. 4
GEODESIC



Fig. 5
CORRUGATED
TUBE



Fig. 6
TUBE



Fig. 7
CELLULAR



Fig. 8
CORRUGATED

Editorials

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VOLUME 11 NUMBER 11

INSULATION

It is not so easy about a thing and making covering for electrical conductors. It requires either the third meaning of the title—or the ones of being an island.

Islands may be real, as they may be creations of the imagination. Real or imaginary, however, the advantages gained from living on them are directly proportional to the protection afforded the inhabitants by the surrounding medium—be it air, water, or a state of mind—against unwanted outside contacts.

England, for example, was once an island. Until recently the narrow strip of water that separates the British Isles from the mainland was a fairly efficient insulation. Deputies of its English has been able to throw her weight on the scales of European politics more or less as she did fit. But with the rise of air power the situation has changed completely. As an insulator the twenty old miles of Channel have become almost as effective as a strip of wet paper between the terminals of a million volt transformer. England is no island no longer—and she has suddenly become nearly aware of it.

In fact, we have been in Europe safe long enough to form some ground impressions. Child among them is a feeling of discomfort that we live in America in this period of world affairs. That we have any special pride to see better or to see achievements. Comparatively speaking, we have no history, and certainly, many a European nation knows more of its social problems far better than ourselves. But we have been as England with "the wind set" working night and day to build up aerial defenses before it is too late. We have seen a second Germany with thousands of efficient aircraft in being and in production—with her city states crowded with unarmored people as fire with and to create the Reich as a world power. We have watched the tens of counts in Spain and have listened at close range to the muskings of the Russian Bear in the east and of the French racial release across the Rhine in the west.

Still wonder then that we look with considerable comfort in the two thousand-mile miles of ocean that separates us from Europe. Actually, for the present stage of international development at least, America has taken over England's island position. We are almost the only truly isolated nation left in the world today, and could look European and Asiatic alike consider a much greater degree of stability than that which is at the moment, but at least!

Boston, Nov. 30.

WINTER AT THE AIRPORT

ALL over the country (excepting Florida and California) birds have gathered at the coastal airports are moving into the dull winter season, after one of the best hunting seasons they have had since 1929 or 1930. Some are closing up their airports and

going into their work. Others are redesigning themselves in a cold, less winter. Both may be making a serious mistake.

There are times when closing an airport for the winter is the only sensible thing to do. We do not presume that you are special travel. Besides, for many months to take up a dozen passengers at a dollar a head

But there is no reason why many of the birds abandoned when the money goes below freezing do not remain active during a large part of the winter.

If you need a non-aeronautical job to keep the wolf from the door in winter you almost always have your work to do. Each winter weekend there are hundreds of red blooded youths who go back in search of winter sports, and are willing to pay for them. Your job is to divert some of that income from the producers of clothing, parties, skating rinks and sleigh carriages. Maybe you will have to find a novel position of the field to make a place for us during. If your business is well known and otherwise reliable, a series of Saturday night kumbe dances will bring in some revenue if they are effectively promoted. An airport New Year's Eve celebration could be made to pay big profits. Clubs and dance societies are constantly seeking novel ways to keep members supplied with recreation. Such non-aeronautical activities serve in their public relations on the airport, to establish it in the public mind as a recreational center. The rest is easy.

Give special flying rates to members of the skating or dancing parties. Organize Saturday afternoon and Sunday trips to the airport for selected groups. And without any doubt your winter weekends will pay you very convenient dividends.

BUYER'S HOLIDAY

PRODUCTION of airplanes, engines and accessories is going up. Everywhere we hear of new highs. One manufacturer is planning to build a thousand airplanes for which he will buy a thousand engines and thousands of units of materials used in airplane construction.

When an engine producer goes into the market to buy anything is large job he can command a respect from his customer or supplier. An engine man's schedule of prices is likely to be reported in him. It may cost him a few nights and weekends of hard labor. But it is sure to render production useful.

If likewise every man concerned with the purchase of materials in any aviation manufacturing company to work some harder as worked going through his stock list, in an hour there he can see money for his company by purchase of materials in larger quantities.

Flying Equipment

What's new in aircraft, engines and major accessories

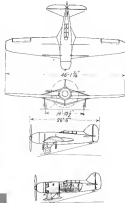
Bellanca 28-70 "Flash"

New version of Mollison's transatlantic plane to have cantilever wing

THE recent record flight of Captain James A. Mollison and the four-engine New York-Poughkeepsie, from one stratum airport to the Bellanca Model 28-70 "Flash." A number of refinements have been made in the design and others are planned also which may be used in the prospective transatlantic run. During the past summer wind tunnel and static tests have indicated that it will be possible to substitute a full cantilever wing for the biplane type in the present version. With this change and with a Twin Wasp engine, a top speed in excess of 300 m.p.h. and a range of over 5,000 miles are expected.

The Mollison Flash which crossed the Atlantic at a speed of 227 m.p.h., is powered with a twin row Pratt & Whitney Wasp IV engine rated at 260 hp, weighs 600 gals. of fuel, and is capable of a top speed range of about 4,000 miles at a cruising speed of 280 m.p.h. Wing construction of the Flash is of wood in the conventional two-spacer type with closely spaced ribs, plywood leading edge, and fabric covering. Plywood is also used to cover the top of the leading gear mechanism. Bracing is accomplished by a system of tie rods from the wing spars to fuselage on top and to two specially designed steel supporting struts connected by a sort of steel bow tie bracing.

Fuselage structure is welded aluminum end tubing with fabric covering. Stabilizer and fin are of wood construction with plywood covering and dural and radials are made of welded steel tubing also covered with fabric. Tail controls on the elevator elements the stabilizer adjustment.



Three view drawing and equipment arrangement for Mollison's ship. (A)—oil fuel tank wing (100—oil fuel tank (100 gals.) (B)—oil fuel tank (100 gals.) (C)—oil fuel tank (100 gals.) (D)—oil fuel tank (100 gals.) (E)—oil fuel tank (100 gals.) (F)—oil fuel tank (100 gals.)



Side view drawing

Flight picture of the "Flash" showing the landing gear

Side view showing engine section and wing support structure



THREE HUNDRED MILLION PASSENGER MILES

OVER ROUTES blazed by Lindbergh . . . the flying Clipper Ships of the Pan American Airways have carried passengers and mail for eight years . . . with an overall record of 99.678% on time.

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TEXACO Aviation Products



(Continued from page 31)

Oil is taken from the engine to the governor pump from which it is delivered to the propeller mechanism under approximately 200 lb. pressure. There is some bleed-back into the pump. The flow of the oil, however, is controlled by another unit of the governor, a centrifugally operated valve. This valve draws the oil to the propeller mechanism only when the engine is slowed down below the rpm for which the governor is set. The propeller then goes into low pitch and the engine returns to its proper speed. The valve remains closed as long as the engine speed is normal. If the speed increases the valve moves in the other direction allowing oil to return from the propeller, increasing the weights on the propeller blades to keep them into higher pitch which slows the engine to proper speed.



The double oil line from the constant speed propeller governor to the main engine with its associated hardware is seen when the engine stops. On the left, the valve, a small diameter pipe, is seen at the end of the line.



The G-100 on the test stand. Note the valve at top right, which controls the main engine.

G-100 Cyclone

TWA cooperates on new design. Wright's overspeeded test cells

Jack Potts, TWA president, has long felt that what the airline needed was an engine designed specifically for service work. TWA and Wright Aircraft Corporation engineers set out to design the first "heavy duty commercial engine" to suit Potts' wishes. Last month was journeyed to the Wright plant at Paterson, N. J., for a demonstration of the finished product—a new Cyclone at the G-100, known as G-100.

TWA has committed an order for 41 of them for installation in the last of eight modified Douglas DC-3's new building at Santa Monica. These ships are scheduled for delivery beginning in January and will deliver TWA's fleet of Douglas DC-3's, flying over 1,000,000 miles a month.

The new G-100's develop 1,200 hp at 2,400 rpm at sea level for 3000-hr (with 100 hours test). They are rated at 1,300 hp for take-off, however. Output at altitude is 950 hp at 2,400 rpm.

In line with regular practice of operation below full throttle, TWA will take only 1,000 hp from these engines at take-off, and will cruise at 950 hp (42 per cent of maximum power available). That will permit greater economy to be maintained, and at the same time have a substantial reserve of power. Because of the large reserve of power and advances in design of the engine, TWA expects to keep the aircraft between overhaul from the present 400 hours to close to 500 hours.

The G-100, a single row, nine-cylinder radial, is a development of the 1,000

hp G, of which 3,000 were sold in the first nine months of this year. Most actual design change is a switch from aluminum alloy to steel for the crankcase—the first of its kind to be used on a production radial engine in this country. The steel crankcase allows a substantially thicker section, and for the 50 psi test increase in strength, adds but 30 lb. to the engine's total weight. The extra power available on the G-100 (as compared with the G) weighs only 3 1/2 lbs. To better cool the cylinder head and increase life of cylinder walls, 1/4 of an inch has been added to the height of the lands. This creates a longer passage, with enlarged bearing surface on the piston skirt.

To overcome the long problem, the new Cyclones are fitted with the newly-developed Chrysler-Detroit crankshaft (see Aviation for May, 1936). With this crankshaft and some refinements in the valve gear, fuel consumption is held in 42 lb. per hp.

Modern arm lubrication is automatic, oil from the engine supply feeding the bearings and driving back to the crankcase through a filter, within the push-rod housing.

The main connecting rod has been redesigned and strengthened to take the greater stresses imposed by the boost in power. Cylinder walls are hardened for extra hardness.

The development work was performed at Paterson was the Engineering Department's new test cells. These chambers, constructed at a cost of \$100,000, permit 24-hour a day test operation. Before their construction all of Paterson used to consist of the noise of Wright's testing operations, but the improvement of the soundproofing in the new sound has eliminated that. In the central room between the two engine cells, we were easily able to converse normally, even when the engine was running away at 2,400 rpm and taking out 1,200 hp. Yet when the door into the corridor below was closed, the tap of our feet hardly came off with the racket.

The efficiency of the soundproofing results from three things: In the first place, the walls of the cells are made of a porous substance which absorbs much of the sound. Secondly, the vacuum in the open air—stamped up—consists of a deep bass sound which breaks up the sound waves as they travel. And lastly, the expansion of the engine is itself a contributing factor. It is mounted on the end of a large steel cylinder, about 18 in. long, which is suspended 10 ft above the floor in a three-point frame of cable loops anchored to the walls and floor. Vibrations are absorbed at the anchorage points by rubber washers which upstate the bearing surfaces (from the building structure). With air and oil in the propeller shafts are heavily reinforced with steel.

Engine controls are operated by a

AVIATION
December, 1936

AVIATION
December, 1936

mechanical linkage through an arm attached to the side of the oil. Control and pump are set up in the observation room between the two cells, where are also located oil meters and fuel supply.

RCA Crystal Unit

Attachment furnishes crystal control of receiver frequency

A new attachment to provide crystal control of receiver frequency is available as airport traffic control work has been largely set up by RCA (Camden, N. J.). The Model AVA-5 Crystal Attachment is made in several forms, as a cabinet to add to existing receiving equipment or as a rack panel unit to match existing panel equipment.

The AVA-5 provides crystal control of any two frequencies in the aviation communication band of 2400 to 6000 kc. The receiver may be prepared to use any frequency, thus providing for three-frequency operation with two frequencies being crystal controlled. The receiver may also be used as a conventional receiving unit.

Crystals are of the "V" cut low-temperature coefficient type mounted in RCA Model AVA-5 crystal holders. Two crystals, ground for the desired frequencies are supplied and others may be obtained if desired.

The AVA-5 unit consists of a frequency converter amplifier, two first detectors with crystal oscillators contained and a constant amplitude frequency amplifier. The unit receives its power through a cable from the service chassis but the tubes are energized by a built-in transformer. The additional 110-volt a.c. power required is 12 watts. Special interconnecting cables are supplied for wiring the unit to the receiver. In use the Model AVA-5 attachment replaces the radio frequency and first detector and modulator and adds another stage of intermediate frequency amplification to the receiver. The unit is completely shielded.

Dimensions and weight are: two tone group cabinet (mounting) width, 12 1/2 in.; depth, 8 1/2 in.; height, 9 in.; weight, 14 1/2 lb. (rack panel mounting; any or black enamel finish) width, 29 in.; depth, 7 1/2 in.; height, 9 1/2 in.; weight, 18 1/2 lb.



Rack panel mounting (AVA-5)

Hirth Engine

German builds accessories complete of 1000-hp engine

To PRODUCE 1,000 HIRTH engines of any type is an outstanding accomplishment. It is still more remarkable when the engine is specific in use and ready for operation. Such an engine is being built in Germany. It is the HIRTH Model, manufactured by the Hirth-Motoren GmbH, Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen.

Developer of this 40, four-cylinder in line, inverted, inverted engine is Hellmuth Hirth who passed a number of years in an aircraft as an assistant in the private laboratories of the late Thomas A. Edison, and has been engaged in plotting and research engineering for thirty years. He is a holder of German Pat. No. 1,000,000.

The HIRTH engine has provided many new meaning and record-breaking achievements in Germany. Many of the light planes, including Klemm, Fieseler, and Dornier use it as regular equipment.



Compact installation (AVA-5) with AVA-5A Airport Receiver

Sensitive Altimeter

Pioneer instrument has direct reading barometric setting

An altimeter considerably more sensitive than the standard instrument and embodying a direct reading barometric setting has been introduced by the



The Hirth Model engine



Pioneer Instrument Company altimeter

Pioneer Instrument Company (New York). Instead of the conventional single pointer, two and sometimes three concentric pointers are used to indicate altitude in feet, hundreds, and thousands of feet. The barometric setting device, in the form of a V-shaped indicator, is built into the lower portion of the dial directly opposite the altitude scale. The setting device directly the scale adjustment of the altimeter to setting barometric pressure readings, facilitating setting and increasing direct readings at a glance. Large numerals provide a distinct index that does not require reference above the altimeter scale. The setting device is set from any angle without parallel error.

For military shops requiring a barometric pressure setting, an equivalent altimeter at altitude there is a further advantage. The counter setting in feet of altitude above or below standard atmosphere is in the level. Above that point the numerals are white against a black background; below the white space appears against a red background. The barometric pressure setting is made by a knob on the lower front part of the instrument. A feature of the sensitive altimeter is complete built-in temperature compensation. The instrument remains accurate and



Metals, as well as men, suffer from fatigue—from loss of strength due to repeated or alternating stress. But metals that are susceptible to this weakness have no place in aircraft engines.

Here are needed special metals, selected for their proven ability to resist fatigue, stress and wear.

To-day the Nickel Alloy Steels are used

for numerous parts of these heavily burdened power plants because their superior mechanical properties minimize the danger of breakage and wear.

Through a partnership with Nickel the single steels are made unusually tough and strong, hence more enduring and reliable. Consultation on problems involving use of alloys containing Nickel is invited.

NICKEL ALLOY STEELS

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Buyers' Log Book

What's New in Accessories, Materials, Supplies, and Equipment

Hydro Degreaser

Cold cleaning tank uses Gark as a solvent

CONSTRUCTION PLANS for a cold immersion cleaning tank known as the "Hydro-degreaser" are offered without cost by the Gerk Corporation (Malden, Mass.), manufacturers of "Gark" solvent compound. This device has been developed to remove heavy accumulations of oil and grease from aircraft engines and parts and has found application in many other industries.

The Hydro Degreaser is constructed in two compartments, one for soaking and the other for rinsing. In extreme cases, air line agitation may be used to ensure turbulence of the solvent bath. This reduces the time necessary for cleaning to only a minute or two. The rinsing section is directly connected to the sewer drain and carries off the dissolved oils and greases in a safe waste-water flow, the tank being self-cleaning and the process continuous.

The device eliminates the cost of water or gas heat and the solution does not irritate the skin and requires no protection for the operator's hands. It is rated as a safety solvent by the Chemworkers Laboratories. Additions are only necessary to never "degas" loss—*AVIATION*, December, 1936.

Jack-of-All-Trades

American Chain Company offers stretching jack with screw-up cog

For operations needing stretching, pulling, loading or lifting, the Winch Drive Division of the American Chain Company, Inc. (Dayton, Ohio) has introduced a simple utility jack. The M-3 tool handles working loads to 4,000 lb.

When in use the stretcher draws the lever back in a spiral wheel mounted in a frame. Raising and lowering is handled by an eccentric side transmission power to the wheel through two gears—*AVIATION*, December, 1936.

Vari-Speed Control

For portable electrical tools and other small motors

A remote control for portable electric tools and other small reversed type motors has been placed on the market by the Pennsylvania Aircraft Synde-

cate (Philadelphia). The Remoté Vari-Speed "Vari-Speed" is light in weight and only 11 in. x 3 in. x 1 in. in size. It can be connected on almost any electric tool up to 220 volts and under 600 watts input. To obtain 1,000 hours life of contact points it should not take over a maximum of 100 amperes at 9 normal speed. There is a condenser across the contacts to minimize the life of the device. Wiring is completely enclosed.

The Vari-Speed is operated by turning a thumb screw on the case, giving a range from 1-4 rated speed. There are no running parts to wear and air from the cooling fan furnishes the governing medium—*AVIATION*, December, 1936.

Thor Spray Gun

Model 7 has 20 different nozzle set ups

A new spray gun capable of spraying materials ranging from simple dyes, lacquers, and enamels up to sand, plaster, and concrete has been introduced by the Thor Manufacturing Company (Chicago, Ill.). The Thor Model 7 can be provided with approximately twenty different nozzle set ups which are interchangeable. Among the improvements claimed by the manufacturer are greater speed, less air consumption, and more perfect atomization. Unique curved spray guns in the world and of introducing color into the gun body which is embedded in the design. The body is of drop forged aluminum with a black anodized coating for surface protection—*AVIATION*, December, 1936.



The Thor Model 7 by Thor.



Remoté Vari-Speed.

Tubing Data Book

Samueli publishes loose leaf handbook for engineers

AN EXTENSIVE hand handbook of general tubing has just been published by the Samueli Tubing Company (Hempstead, Pa.). In the 36 pages of tables, charts, and formulae are tabulated the properties of round, square, square, and elliptical sections. Column strength curves for round, square, and square sections are included. Its yield points higher than commonly employed in aircraft are tabulated at intervals in thousands. Other data valuable to designers are also incorporated in the book—testing data which may be replaced or increased in number as the occasion arises—*AVIATION*, December, 1936.

Dalco Landing Light

Hydraulic Retractable Landing Light introduced on Coast

In the announcement and description of the Dalco retractable landing light in the November issue of *AVIATION*, a typographical error was made in the spelling of the name of the manufacturer. The above spelling is correct—*AVIATION*, December, 1936.



Presenting to the world

The famous and proven Grumman two seated fighter with unparalleled performance. For over 4 years in use in the world's leading naval air force. Also a convertible advanced trainer with pursuit performance. Will be manufactured in Canada from original Grumman design under expert supervision.

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Operators' Corner

An exchange of ideas on the problems of the commercial aviation industry

QUESTIONER "What is to be done about the problem of the private operator who has turned to try to do an additional operator and who is in the business for himself? Should the current school certificate be the minimum of certain kinds, or should it be a certificate of merit? It is not known in the industry as to try to add a class, and an attempt for him and his school to be operating schools, or should the school make his activities in business school?"

Encourage new operators

IT is our belief that a flying school, or an airplane distributor who operates a school in conjunction with his activities, will do well by meeting his student problems in finding a place in the industry. The student who has acquired a transport pilot's license, and is the type who can assume responsibility and possesses some knowledge of business principles, should be encouraged and assisted in establishing a small school as a small operator in the smaller communities that have not as yet been allowed flying service. There are undoubtedly many towns with populations up to 10,000 that do not have a flying airport and that would afford one pilot with a small plane, such as an Aerotec, enough business in student training and taxi work to support himself for some time with the possibility of a sale eventually to progress at his own and the aid of assistance in his school. For plane distributors this offers an outlet for more sales, first to the operator getting started, and then to prospects acquired through the new dealer. Sales during the past summer in small communities have definitely shown that this is possible and it is an opportunity that the distributors and schools should not overlook.—A. E. STUART MORGAN, President, Washington Division of Transport Corporation, Boeing Field, Seattle, Wash.

Need assure honest competition

WE believe that there is an undeveloped opportunity in the operation of fields near small towns and that any increase in the number of such fields will benefit charter business and stimulate airplane sales to private users by increasing the usefulness of the airplane. We believe that aviation needs honest competition. We must have that there are too many pilots operating unsoundly just as a side-line and not enough who are really making a business of aviation. The more of us there are who are will-

ing the public on flying, the greater the public will be sold, and the more business there will be for all of us.—A. E. STUART MORGAN, President, Washington Division of Transport Corporation, Boeing Field, Seattle, Wash.

QUESTIONER "What method do you employ to insure compliance of charter service within the time required upon delivery of aircraft and upon payment? How do you compute the necessary hourly between the gross and actual time and the varying rates of the aircraft? Do you hold schedule most ready in certain areas if they are found to be unsatisfactory?"

About some latitude

IT is obvious that we are asked to assume specifically what time we are arriving at a charter trip destination. Obviously we are asked "how long will it take," and in giving the answer we usually allow enough latitude so that we are not embarrassed—rather, we usually exceed our intended schedule, and thereby please our passenger to no degree.

In estimating our time, we of course know the distance, and our cruising distance, and the approximate number of stops necessary. We allow at least 30 minutes per stop regardless, (and this try to do it as fast as humanly possible) and after we have computed all that we usually add a little time for possible emergency and, as stated above, so that we will please our customer. We do not hold standby equipment ready to evacuate any ship loaded down for any reason.—KARL E. VONSTRA, Karl E. Vonstra, Inc.—All American Airport, Miami, Fla.

Standby ships impracticable

IN connection with the limited amount of charter work we do, we find that the customer usually appreciates fast

there is always a chance of delay because of weather or mechanical trouble, and it is therefore unnecessary to guarantee any definite time of arrival. Except on the case of a large operator having several ships available for charter work, it would seem to us very impracticable to hold an entire ship and pilot in readiness to evacuate another ship in the event of mechanical trouble.—GEOFF A. YOUNG, Manager, Standard Flying Service, Inc., Southwest Mills Airport, Bellingham, B.C., N.Y.

Estimates based on experience

WE do not guarantee any time limit. We estimate time to points where we have not made flights at about 5 per cent below cruising speed. We keep time records on all cross-country flights to use as a basis for future estimates.

In about 2,000 hours of all kinds of flying we have had only two forced landings, neither of which caused any major delays, so we feel that "standby" equipment would be just unnecessary overhead for us.

Where connections are made with airlines, we allow about 45 minutes over our estimated flying time.—A. E. STUART MORGAN, President, Washington Division of Transport Corporation, Boeing Field, Seattle, Wash.

Pacific Progress

(Continued from page 27)

Since has been built up to that work can proceed by shifts on the Clippers (each twenty-four hours a day if necessary).

Training crews

If the Pacific Division had been otherwise a finished thing two months ago, the lack of crew training would in itself have presented a major problem. Men had long been training in the Caribbean Division for full transport operations as described in AVIATION for August, 1958, but no convincing word of such practice and training could substitute for actual experience in the Pacific. The survey results of the Pan American Clipper and the preliminary flights along the California coast had given a beginning at this experience to two orders of us: first, the training of the men that

(Turn to page 49)

Question 20

(Answer is as published in AVIATION)

DR. YOUNG believes that a Special Forces should be assigned to the Pacific Division, that, what capabilities should be required? Should the number of men be increased to 100 for the transport Division or should some other number of men be assigned? Should some other number of men be assigned? Should some other number of men be assigned? Should some other number of men be assigned?

News of the Month

Highlighting recent events in the aviation world.

Two Interline Shuffles

Eastern Air buys Wedell-Williams, to tap the Mexican market; Pennsylvania and Central consolidate

The most important airline acquisition since Lockheed's long control of TWA from General Motors in 1933 was announced Dec. 30. Pending approval by the Civil Aeronautics Board, Eastern Air Lines Division of North American Aviation, Inc. has purchased the equipment and franchise of Wedell-Williams Air Lines, operating a daily service with mail, passengers and cargo between New Orleans, La., and Houston, Tex.

Eastern, operating Chicago-Miami, New York-Miami, and New York-New Orleans routes, will soon be 320 miles nearer San Antonio's western terminus at Brownsville, Tex. Already Atlantic seaboard and Chicago traffic are fed into the PAA system at Miami. Eastern is planning extension of the route from Houston to the Mexican border (presumably to Brownsville), which would give the line connections

with major JAAA terminals for traffic to Mexico, Central and South America.

Office Solicitor Karl Crowley has advised that he will recommend Post Office approval of the sale, necessary because it involves transfer of a mail contract. The line will be known as the Wedell-Williams division of Eastern Air Lines, and most of the present operating personnel will be retained.

Wedell-Williams was expanded in 1930 by the late Harry P. Williams and the late James R. Wedell. First operation was a weekly service between New Orleans and St. Louis, which was soon expanded to daily service. The same year daily service to Shreveport was provided, and later extended to Fort Worth.

When mail contracts for these routes were not forthcoming, the routes were abandoned, and in 1934 Wedell-Williams purchased the mail contract for the New Orleans-Houston route from Ralston Airplane Service Co. Harry Williams, widow, Mrs. Margaret Wedell-Williams, now operates the line at the front of the Eastern Air purchase.

Another change in the air mail map scheduled Jan. 20 when the Post Office Department approved the merger of two old rivals—Pennsylvania Airlines and Central Airlines. The merger has been recommended by the Civil Aeronautics Board's Civil Aeronautics Corporation, which will operate the new combination.

Consolidated in December, the \$200,000, San Francisco-based firm consolidated since from other company units late in October.

Pennsylvania Airlines luxury class took off April, 1957, when Clifford Ball changed a sack of mail into an open cockpit Waco and took off from Berlin Park, near Fishersburg, and flew to Cleveland. Two years later the line was extended to Washington, and in 1952 started carrying mail over the Washington - Philadelphia - Cleveland route. Plans expansion continued in inter-line destinations adding seven passengers.

By 1933 demands for more space and speed made necessary the purchase of Ford 80-motor Twin in 1934. The

Choppers are midway between Alameda and Honolulu and between widely prices as the ships near each terminal. In addition each Clipper has its own radio direction finder with which it can take bearings on land or at sea and even on broadcasting stations.

To say that no Clipper is at all of the half-million miles of flying has overblown is to say that a few ships from its completed course would not be to put it too strongly. Again and again they have passed directly over ships in and out of the harbor, and in the past, no one would have been found there any way. San Francisco Bay through that report's projected fogbank. Recently, one of the Clippers came flying down the coast, and a number of the station has as a passenger and to a demonstration, worked out a course to pass directly over a station. Since, 10,000 feet above it and with a complete clear layer showing it from view. Arrived over the ship's command position, the Clipper, after the engine and radio officers, the hour indicated them that the ship had dropped somewhere within a few miles of it.

At first they were worried about the Pacific, of course, there was no problem whatever. From Manila, Guam, Honolulu and San Francisco there was data available from weather bureau stations that indicated periodic rain between stations that from the great error in between, ship reports were available and were partially usable for reference work.

The station's own bases at Midway and Wake filled great gaps of course and between the other island bases moderately to supplement the weather bureau observations. A system was worked out for combining data from weather stations on the Asian continent, from Japan and other Pacific Islands and at some from stations in North America. This spring a further great record was added when an arrangement was made for upper air balloons (conducted from Alameda flying planes between California and Honolulu, such lines being equipped with complete double and before approach and its officers being instructed in standard procedure.

From the start the analysis carried out by the station's meteorologists of the Pacific weather map has been based on the polar low theory and it has yielded persistently high accuracy.

As a result probably for the first time heavier than air craft have been flying on ocean not as a Great Circle but on the weather map. Recently, in the month of May, the four ship flight between Alameda and Honolulu has deviated as much as 300 miles from the Great Circle course in order to avoid unfavorable winds at

to secure favorable ones. Another instance of the combined accuracy of navigation and weather forecasting is the effectiveness of the flight director system made before such departure with the latest weather analysis in hand, weather, operations and flying personnel prepare an estimate of the time the proposed flight will take from the California-Hawaii leg while, through, airplanes in twenty hours in duration, analysis of these months have arranged a program of a few trials at no hour and have been directed from the actual mid-air time by more than six-way stations.

Compared with the flight plan, of course, is a complete system of matching conditions. It is a time proof for each stage of the crossing. At the flight director conference, operations personnel worked out our most serious source of light for each case (the California-Hawaii leg being broken into some five flight zones). For each land and for each zone the flight director has a complete flight plan, complete schedule of engine RPM, fuel oil, etc., etc., to which they refer very closely. If anything, the flight director's system is even more accurate than the forecast of the flying time. As a result no Clipper in the entire half million miles of flying has ever landed at Alameda or Honolulu with less than that sufficient for five hours of additional flying and fuel loads between each departure are now figured on forecast plus six hours of reserve.

The future

The future of the polar route is definitely encouraging. With planes, equipment, navigation and weather forecasting, there seems little likelihood of a repetition of last winter's troubles. Systems are well along in progress, a source of potential delay at the West end of the system has no more to fear for any other form of transportation.

With developments of fuel, engines and operating practices it seems assured that passenger shipments between San Francisco and Honolulu can be steadily increased. Mid-ocean bases will be further improved by a ship expedition which sailed early in October to complete construction and install additional equipment. The opening of the final link between Manila and the China Coast long-proposed and now in immediate prospect, should do much to increase the "air always" effectiveness. But somehow one cannot avoid a feeling that, like the various railway line in a line, the most important link is the hardest to get together. The Pacific Ocean is a real and proven thing.



HAMILTON STANDARD Controllables

ON
NEW
BASIC
TRAINERS

To acquaint army students with an important feature of high performance aircraft, the new basic training ships of North American and Seversky are now equipped with Hamilton Standard Controllable Pitch Propellers — the first evidence of the widespread use of the controllable pitch principle.

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company has its main contract in the general aviation field, and, organized as Pennsylvania Airlines & Transport Co., commenced its operations in Detroit, it is due to test for a new contract. Pennsylvania was ordered, however, by the newly-formed Central Airlines, which has held the Washington-Detroit contract (Route 11) until the recent consolidation of interests.

Meanwhile Pennsylvania bought the Kokler Aviation Corp., which had purchased the Detroit-Michigan route across Lake Michigan, in 1935. This enabled the company to make a successful bid for the contract for this route. Passenger and express service on the Washington-Detroit route has continued for the past two years in fairly competition with Central.

Officers of the new corporation are drawn almost entirely from Pennsylvania's list: C. Robert Manno will continue as president, Frederick R. Crawford, vice president and secretary, W. J. Austin, vice-president in charge of traffic, R. G. Ladd, treasurer. Only new recruit is J. R. Collier, assistant secretary and assistant treasurer.

Production, Sales

Stearns for Brazil. United Aircraft increases wages

The Brazilian Army Aviation Department signed a contract late in October with the Stearns Aircraft Company, of Wichita, Kansas. The contract calls for 30 Stearns Model 75-C1 advanced trainers. Power will be from Wright Whetwells of 420 h. The purchase price is \$581,800, and the first lot of five planes will be delivered next March.

One of Lockheed's new Model 16 (its Artisanas for September, 1938) which won the Bureau of Air Contract competition for a small two-engine transport for frontier service, has just been delivered to the Bureau for the use of Department personnel. The plane carries 11 212 hp. in its power from two Pratt & Whitney Wasp juniors. It is equipped with a Sperry Gyroplane, Western Electric two-way radio, and a new Radio Evadex homing device housed in a transparent pyramid over and attached to the under side of the fuselage directly ahead of the cockpit. Deicing apparatus is installed on the trailing edge of the wing and tail surfaces. Fuel capacity for a 1,000 mile stage is provided.

Pittsfield Aircraft, Ltd., of Canada, has sold 30,000 shares of capital stock to Allied & Co., Ltd., of Montreal, at \$5 a share. The stock was re-issued at \$5 a share. Proceeds will be used for working capital to take care of an estimated 300 per cent increase in sales for the year 1939.

As a result of the sale, Pittsfield Export & Airplane Co., which was



LYCOMING STINSON

the company's work in the aircraft, Mr. Post is also shown in the background of the photo.

was formed in October to separate the engine and engine manufacturing activities of Pittsfield Aircraft Corp. from its engine and instrument divisions, will have its stock interest in the Canadian company reduced to about 37 per cent from 484 per cent.

Effective November 37, all divisions of United Aircraft Corporation granted a 54 wage increase of 84 cents an hour for their hourly wage employees. This will add more than \$645,000 to the corporation's annual payroll. The Board of Directors also voted a 30 cents per share dividend.



COL. LINDBERGH

designed his new Stinson biplane as a design, Frederick George Miles. The plane was designed in the Columbia configuration, and is powered with a 200 hp. super-charged Lycoming engine (model 12-215).

possible Dec. 15, to stockholders of record Dec. 8. On the basis of 2,955,763 shares outstanding, this would mean a \$1,231,896 dividend distribution.

New York and New England distribution for the 1937 series at Ryan 5-T planes, produced at the Ryan Aeronautical Co. plant at San Diego, has been granted U. J. Whelan, Inc., North Beach Airport, New York. On a recent trip to the West Coast factory, Whelan ordered five planes, three of which were for immediate delivery. Ryan recently decided to finance plane sales on the basis of one third cash and two thirds notes, which will be payable in 12 months.

The Ex-Cell-O Aircraft & Tool Corp., Detroit, Mich., has adopted a group insurance program providing approximately 800 employees with sickness and accident benefits, and a total of nearly 300,000 of accidentals death and comprehensive protection.

Taylor Aircraft Co., of Bradford, Pa., has announced a 5000 reduction in the price of the Taylor "Cub," bringing the price down to \$1,270. W. J. Piper, general manager of the Taylor Aircraft Co., has estimated that the plant has a 2,000 plane capacity for next year. Since January of this year, available floor space and number of employees at the plant have been tripled.

The Stevenson-Hammond Aircraft Corp., which has been organized to manufacture the Hammond V pusher developed for the Bureau of Air Cauter, light plane category, has registered 280,000 shares of common



BRAZILIAN PILOTS WILL TRAIN

In these Lockheed Model 56-40 advanced trainers, 24 of which have been ordered from the Hercules Aircraft Company. Twelve more from Wright are in option.

stock on the San Francisco Corb-rough. The company is headed by Lloyd Stremmer, and has constructed a new plant adjoining the San Francisco Municipal Airport. Fifteen Ys have been ordered for by the Bureau of Air Commerce.

Walter Kilde & Co., Inc., has developed a new tapered valve for line airplanes for anti-siphoning systems otherwise a weight reduction of approximately 14 per cent. Weight of single water level control installation is now down to about 15 lb.

The Security National Aircraft Corp., headed by W. B. Kerner, is planning construction of a factory adjoining the Long Beach Municipal Airport. It is planned to put into production a two place line wing monoplane powered with a 125 hp Kinner (see page 32). The schedule calls for an initial production of two planes a week.

Greenman Aircraft Engineering Corporation, of Farmingdale, N. Y., has acquired manufacturing rights to a landing gear patent developed by the Graver Landing Aircraft Co. The gear is the type in which the main strength stress consists of two legs joined by an offset self locking hinge, and one leg of which is a shock absorber.

Major Alexander P. de Severis, president of the Severis Aircraft Corp., announced in October the purchase of the plant which the Kinner Engineering Corp. was leasing from the Aviation Corp. Sherman M. Friedman (Kinner) is a Davidbilt subsidiary) doing this, stating that Kinner held an option on the property, which is intended to continue. There for a week, the matter was deflected. Then

last month the two companies announced a settlement of the dispute; each will buy from Aviation Corp. its passing plant, and will use the adjacent field jointly.

The Canadian Car & Foundry Co., which in October announced that it had acquired export license rights in the Greenman P-1 two-seater fighter, will also handle export manufacturers and sales of Vincent Borelli's crop-top aircraft. Sales efforts will be made in Canada, England and South America. Last month a patent application in Argentina gave the plant a monopoly of fifteen planes a day. That should have real stress placed a week, it was in the accompanying story.

Fare Enough

Two lines join TWA in cutting prices.

In rare but the years, passenger fares per mile on U. S. airlines have come down more than 50 per cent—from 15 cents in 1938 to 37 cents in 1958. This has been the result of growing traffic volume, more efficient equipment and ever-increasing competition. For the past four years, fares have come on too crystallized, the movement downward having been less than half a cent since 1952.

Then Sept. 28 TWA announced drastic fare reduction as an inducement to traffic through the winter months when it usually dries off. The TWA philosophy is that it's more economical to fill four planes at less per passenger than to operate with a lower load factor because of higher fares.

Almost immediately after the TWA announcement there was talk of at

leastening rate war among the airlines. But one after another the other three of the "Big Four," American, Eastern and United, abandoned all thought of participation in a war. Eddie Eckelander, general manager at Kansas Air, said "There is no such thing as 'hot air' air transportation. For ten years now the lines . . . have fought desperately . . . to place air transportation in the country where it is today. Now, when air fares are becoming so close that instead of red on their books, is the time for those men who have stuck to their posts during that bitter ten year struggle, to get their rewards. . . . To induce now in a difficult price war would be to knock the props right out from under the better air service toward which we have been so laboriously reaching for ten years."

A few days after TWA's announcement of fare cuts, Chicago & Southern Air Lines announced "substantial fare reductions . . . in line with the recent action of TWA." Carlton Putnam, C & S president, believes that "the fare has passed the regarding air travel as a service available only to the few. . . . We believe the increased traffic volume which will result will not only increase company revenues, but will reduce the unit cost of our service."

Third line to reduce fares was Braniff Airways, which initiated lower winter rates effective until March 1 of next year.

Meanwhile, before Braniff came upon the scene, C. R. Smith, majority owner, president of American Airlines, the declared to get on the bandwagon. His point was that "members of the industry flying 90 per cent of the passenger miles of the country are not paying out rates into effect. . . . That he added, "We will watch with interest how the price lines cut rates in air transportation."

W. A. Patterson, president of United Air Lines, held that "United is recognizing the public's approval of its present rates, policies and service, which have enabled it, without cutting rates, to operate at the highest load factor in its history."

Calendar

Dec. 10-12-13—North Atlantic Air Association Air Symposium, Washington, D. C., 10-12; 13, New York, N. Y.

Dec. 16-18—1957-National Aircraft Show—Grand Central Palace, New York.

Nov. 20-23, 1958—General Aviation Meeting, Reno, Nev.—Pacific Aviation Association Air Show, Reno, Nev.

Sept. 22-25—1958—FIVE International Symposium on Applied Mechanics—Cincinnati, Ohio.

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Miami Cruise

Two high-speed groups planning
east flights to annual conventions.

A private feature of the South Atlantic Air American Air Men's, to be held at Miami, Fla., on Dec. 18, 11, and 12, will be the arrival at the municipal airport of two large groups of light planes. The Taylor Aviation Co., of Bedford, Pa., is sponsoring a solo flight of Taylor C-10s, which is scheduled to leave Atlanta on Dec. 7. To date 30 ships are signed up. The Taylor Company will pay each member's room accommodations for the four nights he will be in Miami. The "Coh Coh" is under the direction of Ted Wolf of Taylor, May D. H. Young, Pure Oil Co., and Ralph Lockwood, Gulf Oil Co.

A second group of planes, which may range in size from 30 to 50, will be made up of Ansons, and will leave Cincinnati, O., Dec. 6. The Army-Navy Corporation of America, which is sponsoring the event, will supply gasoline to all aircraft who stop with the cruise through in Miami. Every Anson army out of the Mississippi has been invited to join.

Procurement

Army orders 267 planes. 66
Consolidated VPIs for Navy

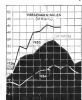
The Army got 25 automated aircraft in a contract for 117 basic airplanes to the North American Aviation Corporation, Inglewood, Cal. Contract price is \$1,425,000. The planes will be delivered for use as the Air Corps Primary Training School at Randolph Field, Tex. The Air Corps said that "although somewhat slower, this plane is very similar in appearance and general handling characteristics to the modern pursuit plane, and at the same time has the ease of maintenance, combined with simplicity of construction which is required in a training plane."

On 30 some further basic trainer order to the Stinson Aviation Co. The contract calls for 30 at a price of about \$450,000.

A second large order to North American came Nov. 19 and called for 120 observation planes. This ship is three-place medium biplanes with retractable landing gear and tail wheels. They will be powered with single 440 hp. Wright Cyclones, and will be equipped with trailing edge flaps. Purchase price is \$1,425,000. Secretary of War Henry H. Henshaw said, in announcing the award, that the contract "completes the procurement program under the 1935-36 appropriation. By the end of this year, he expects to complete a program for the acquisition of 300 planes."

Traffic

Latest available statistics from
the Bureau of Air Commerce
and the Post Office Depart-
ment—Domestic airlines only



Consolidated Aircraft Corp., San Diego, Cal., was awarded a \$370,000 contract for 66 patrol bombers for the Navy Nov. 12.

The Coast Guard has asked for bids on two to six aircraft, convertible for use either on land or water. In a circular dated Oct. 30, the Air Corps asked for bids on 40,000,000 gal of gasoline, as several separate specifications.

Traffic Gains

Reports from American, Eastern,
TWA, United, show new records

The report issued by C. R. Smith, American Airlines' president, for the first nine months of this year, showed a 31.2 per cent gain for revenue passengers over the same period in 1934. Number of passengers—473,546—was the largest for a similar period ever turned by any U. S. airline. It was within a few hundred of the total for the full year 1935.

Gains over the same period in 1935 were registered by Eastern Air Lines in every branch of its operations for the first nine months of this year, according to an announcement by Capt. H. V. Ridenbiller, general manager. Budget gains were in the air dispatch category, which jumped 9.0 per cent. Revenue passengers increased 21.5 per cent (73,507 this year against 60,881 in 1934), though passenger miles increased 36.1 per cent.

In Greater Northeast Airlines gained the select group with a longer service record. Its first scheduled flight was on October 21, 1934, when the Post Office Department awarded a contract for the carriage of mail between Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Chicago.

Bureau Airways attorneys have withdrawn an application filed with the Post



STRIKING POWER

For the Navy is featured in this Boeing bomber. It is the last of thirteen in more than five weeks now. Boeing assembly plant at Seattle, Wash., was planned just before World War I. The plane is 110 ft. 6 in. long, 30 ft. 6 in. high, 30 ft. 6 in. wide, and 30 ft. 6 in. deep. It is powered with four 1,000 hp. Pratt & Whitney engines.

Over 2½ Miles

OF ROEBLING CABLES FOR THIS NEW BOEING BOMBER



Boeing B-29 Bomber
for U. S. Army Air
Corps

ROEBLING WIRE AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS

THERE are 2,484 ft. of Roebling Control Cable and 11,417 ft. of Roebling Insulated Cable used on each of the new Boeing B-29 Superfortresses. Thirteen of these giant American bombers will soon be delivered to the U. S. Army Air Corps. Because they assure the utmost of safety and dependability, Roebling Aircraft Cables were the choice for this outstanding fleet as they are for a big majority of planes built in this country.

Roebling Wire Aircraft Products includes—*Tinned Aircraft Wire, 19-gauge Aircraft Stranded, Tinned or Galvanized Aircraft Cord (6/32, 7/32, 7/16, 1/2), Tinned and Galvanized Ferrous and Titanium Serving and Locking Wire, Control Strands and Cables, Power and Lighting Cable, Welding Wire.*

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BEAR THE NAME ROEBLING

AVIATION December, 1938

Office Department for a second hearing in preparation for the purchase of Boeing by TWA. The first application for jurisdiction was denied. Meanwhile, Boeing schedules have been rearranged to make better connections with Pan American at Brownsville and TWA at Kansas City.

Refugees have been selected in the northern section of Pan American Airways for use in the trans-Atlantic carrier flights which are scheduled to start next spring. The P.A. line, for ten years at the Municipal Airport, runs for its normal period of ten years, with seasonal privileges for three additional free years.

Other Atlantic land-based lines are still being considered for possible use as terminals—namely Charleston, S. C., and Port Washington, N. Y.

Standard Airlines is planning installation of light beams on the route from Omaha to the Twin Cities and from Sweet Falls to Hammond. Lockheed Electric will be used on the Sioux Falls-Bismarck route.

J. B. Wicker, TWA, vice president in charge of traffic, has reported that over the first half of this year each passenger flew an average of slightly over 800 mi., and TWA planes carried 8.29 passengers for each mile flown. Nine-month figures showed a total of 64,425 revenue passengers, compared with 47,745 for the same period last year.

The first nine months of 1938 brought a new record for United Airlines, with traffic down 35 per cent to 37 per cent over the previous year, and expense

Lockheeds Abroad

British Airways orders four American ships for Stockholm run.

DISBURSED orders of British purchases of American military planes have been drifting across the Atlantic since early October. Great Britain's planes are known to be loaded up with Air Ministry orders in a frantic rush to build up the air force in a per war Germany and France. On the first side of the ocean no consideration of the money could be had, the companies mentioned for the orders reflecting that they were interested, but had heard nothing from England.

Then came information that British Airways, Ltd., had ordered four Lockheed Blenda for commercial use. This order was made necessary because the Air Ministry banned use of De Havilland DH-6A's for night service on the London-Stockholm run, and the state of the British industry did not permit necessary changes in time for inauguration of service.

The Lockheeds will be standard 30-passenger Blendas with normal airline



"FINE FLITS"

A baby monoplane for Flight School now open at "Vine View." It is a Vesper 104, and does the Blue Bird delivery at the Detroit show.

equipped. They will be powered with two Pratt & Whitney Wasp J-1 engines, and will be equipped with standard Standard propellers. Delivery dates were not announced, nor was price revealed.

Financial

Many profits reported for nine months and third quarter periods.

THE companies—transport or manufacturing—have selected the general business opening by reporting profits in the third quarter or for the full first nine months of the current year.

For the three months ended Sept. 30, Boeing Airplane Company's net profit was reported at \$20,269, after charges and unusual Federal income taxes. This is equal to 7.5 cents a share on capital stock and outstanding scrip certificates. The same period last year showed a loss of \$10,112. For the first nine months of this year, the company had a net profit of \$131,712, whereas in the same period last year it suffered a \$391,000 loss. These figures include Shuman Aircraft and Boeing Aircraft of Canada, Boeing subsidiaries.

Fairchild Aviation Corporation reports gross sales of its aerial camera, motorcraft, and aerial survey subsidiaries for the nine months ended Sept. 30, amounting to \$24,346, net profit after normal company expenses but before provision for taxes, amounted to \$3,686, and unpaid orders were \$27,204. Fairchild Aircraft, Ltd., the Canadian subsidiary reported a net loss of \$2,314 for the ten months ended Oct. 31.

A net income of \$113,125 has just been reported by Imperial Airways for the year ended last March 31.

Division of Standard Oil (Indiana) New York declared a regular dividend of 20 cents and an extra dividend of \$1, payable Dec. 13 to stockholders at record Nov. 14.

Net profit of the Aviation Corpora-

tion for the third quarter of 1936 ended Sept. 30 was \$38,278. Net loss for the first nine months of the year was \$113,886.

The Curtiss-Wright Corporation and subsidiaries have reported net profits for the first nine months of 1938 at \$1,262,132. There was a \$400,313 profit for the third quarter. Wright Aircraft, the Curtiss-Wright engine subsidiary, showed a profit of \$200,526. For the September quarter, profit was \$208,615.

New financing for the Glass L. Martin Company netted \$4,200,000. Unfilled orders of the company on Sept. 30 were estimated at \$3,844,000, with gross sales this year at more than \$5,000,000.

Earnings 22.4 cents a share on 623,135 capital shares outstanding, TWA has reported a net income of \$129,000 for the September quarter, the best quarter in the company's history. Directors will after stockholders the right to subscribe to 257,711 additional shares at the rate of one third there for each share now held. It is expected that this offering will yield between \$2,250,000 and \$2,500,000, most of which will go for the purchase of new equipment.

United Aircraft Corporation has reported a net profit of \$602,548, or 38 cents a share, for the first nine months of 1938. This compares with \$408,213 for the same period last year. For the quarter ended Sept. 30, net profit was \$264,186.

DeCaff-O Aircraft & Tool showed a net profit of \$252,387 for the quarter ended Sept. 30.

For the nine months ended Sept. 30, American Airlines reported a net loss of \$296,632 after taxes, depreciation, and other deductions.

United Air Lines showed a net income of \$267,367 for the third quarter of 1938.

Waco Aircraft Company showed for nine months ended Sept. 30 a net loss of \$40,142 against \$1,527 less a year before: sales \$486,661 against \$500,357.



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Schools, Services, and Airports

A state-by-state tour of the flying fields

• **ALABAMA**—James Stallings, commercial operator at the Birmingham Municipal Airport, is flying with American Airlines as co-pilot between Memphis and Newark. The Avionics News Club, organized at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute as the beginning of the present term, has a membership of 25 students. A Taylor Club has been organized and Jack Flood, who received his flight training at Birmingham, is instructor for the club. James Eason is instructing Flood at the Tusculum-Greenville Airport. The Birmingham Avionics Club held its monthly meeting and lecture October 8 at the Tusculum Hotel, Birmingham. Julius Martin, club president, announced he is planning a visit to Tulsa by instructing operators. His club and every member has been urged to be present at the next regular meeting. Work on the Aviation Airport's improvement project is scheduled for completion by the WPA early in October. About \$70,000 has been approved for expenditure there, calling for grading, installation of drainage facilities and completion of the administration building and hangar. Work was started early in October on a new \$50,000 airport at Jasper.

• **ARIZONA**—The Phoenix Flying Club is planning restoration of the club meeting room at Phoenix Sky Harbor. Membership in the club has grown to thirty. The newest members are W. M. and Charles A. Treadwell and J. S. Smith. Now working for the runway lights at the TWA airport at Wickenburg is being installed under the direction of E. M. Zimmerman. Thirty thousand feet of cable is being used.

• **ARKANSAS**—The Fast Sports Racers Club has received a proposal for a bond issue for the purchase and improvement of Fort Smith Airport.

• **CALIFORNIA**—The first air show in several years was staged at Sacramento Municipal Airport on October 4, sponsored by the Sacramento Junior Chamber of Commerce and the local chapter of the National Aeronautics Association. Participation was principally by local commercial and private pilots and the well-organized program and good publicity brought out one of the biggest crowds since the dedication, estimated at close to 25,000 persons. The program included a parachute jump by Gerry Raugh, pilot, a bomb drop

from control, and stunt flying. C. T. Jones, who is operating a crop duster service from Sacramento Airport reports the purchase of a Challenger Traveler from David Weston of Woodstock, and the winning of his Kansas license.

• **CONNECTICUT**—The fifth annual air show commemorating the anniversary of the opening of the New Haven Municipal Airport was held Oct. 12. Over 50,000 spectators were present. Performers included Pete Renski, Louie de Pavia, Johnny Tanager and Tom Lockhart. A crowd of 10,000 witnessed the Balaconsky ceremonial air show at Midway Airport, Stratford, Oct. 18. The show was sponsored by the Bridgeport Flying Club under the direction of Dr. Joseph L. Levy and James Mulvaney. Thomas Ray and Constant Mueller of New Haven won the driving. George Axtell of Boston won the 15 mile race.

• **DELAWARE**—The Delaware Flying Club is planning restoration of the club meeting room at Delaware Municipal Airport on Oct. 14. It is the first step in a \$40,000 program to improve the field. The New York State Flying Club is planning the purchase of a Taylor Club. Frank Peterson will be club reporter. The Treadwell

will erect a machine shop and special air service equipment. Private new residents were admitted into the Delaware Flying Club at a meeting Oct. 8 at the New York State Airport. A new \$100,000 runway was opened at New York State Municipal Airport on Oct. 14. It is the first step in a \$40,000 program to improve the field. The New York State Flying Club is planning the purchase of a Taylor Club. Frank Peterson will be club reporter. The Treadwell

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TAYLORCRAFT

Photo: Kenneth Wilson (left) production manager, and E. C. Taylor, president of Taylorcraft, inspect the status of the aircraft in the flight line.

to contract the control tower before landing. The tower indicates north-south and east-west. The control is in operation 24 hours a day.

• **FLORIDA**—The field lighting installed by the WPA at Fort Pierce Airport was ready for use Sept. 22. The runway is furnished by the city and the three long runways are now lighted every night from sunset to sunrise. A new 15,533 ft. metal hangar was completed September 29. The Miami City Commission has authorized purchase of the Carlin Wright Flying Service hangar at Miami Municipal Airport. Purchase price is set at \$10,000.

• **GEORGIA**—John H. Orley, Jr., chairman of the aviation committee of the ATLANTA Chamber of Commerce has announced that another Georgia air terminal here will be staged in 1933. The plans cover one more than 1,000 landings and take-offs and covered 20,000 miles. It was announced as an advertising scheme for Georgia industries. Southern Airways, Inc., will lease the Atlanta Municipal Airport for a 5-year term if the City Council gives its approval. Facilities at seeking additional lighting facilities at the new Municipal Airport. . . . Macon's new airport was dedicated late in September. . . . Work was scheduled to start early in October on the first runway at the new Clayton County Airport on the border of Macon. The runway will be 1,900 ft. long and 180 ft. wide.

• **IDAHO**—A radio range beacon is being installed at the Pocatello Municipal Airport. A WPA expenditure

of \$40,000 has been approved for construction of a radio range beacon at the Cheating of Idaho, South Branch, Pocatello.

• **ILLINOIS**—An air marker 806 ft. long has been completed by WPA workers at Moline Airport. The south-west-northwest runway at Moline Municipal Airport was finished early in October. . . . Presidential approval has been given to a \$175,000 WPA project for the improvement of the Bloomington Municipal Airport. A crowd of more than 1,000 people attended an air show held early in October at the Moline Airport. The show was managed by John Brown.

• **INDIANA**—An air show staged by the Sactus "Radio Pilot" Club early in October served the dual purpose of \$123 . . . A \$10,000 WPA project is under way at Muncie Municipal Airport. Plans call for an 80x110 ft. hangar with a 25x150 ft. taxiway across the south end. The city is contributing \$4,000 of the total funds. . . . An air show was scheduled in the Evansville Airport late in October.

• **IOWA**—Des Moines aviation was scheduled to vote Yes. A proposed \$280,000 bond issue to improve the Des Moines Municipal Airport. The first part of the American Legion has endorsed the plan. . . . A WPA project under way at Iowa City will provide reconstruction of the two present runways and construction of a third runway at an approximate cost of \$90,000.

• **KANSAS**—More than 20,000 persons attended the air show at Wichita Airport late in October. The show was

held in conjunction with the Kansas Diamond Jubilee Exposition. . . . The Gray Hawk Club Council has taken most steps toward the purchase of ground for a municipal airport.

• **KENTUCKY**—Major John C. Bennett, Jr., president of Louisville Flying Service has announced the appointment of Richard A. Deibel as sales manager. The Louisville Flying Service is distributor for several planes in the Louisville area and also does charter work and conducts a flying school. . . . Seven planes are being at the Paducah Municipal Airport. This fall the new WPA hangar is under way. Plans at the field are owned by J. D. Perry, Jack Brown, Dick DeVries, E. W. Howell and Melford D. Ryan.

• **LOUISIANA**—A new airport serving both Bossier and Vivian was opened early in October. It was named Vivian Airport. . . . The New Orleans Aviation Club held a flying meet at Shreveport Airport late in October as part of the observance of National Air Progress Week. The spot landing contest was won by Augusta Wabshaw. She completed a field of 100, including Miss Margaret Lawrence, C. E. Pollock, Elmer Thomas, John Graham, Wallace Jaramila, and Don Lutz.

• **MAINE**—A new company, Maine Airways Corporation, has been organized at Bangor. Operating a Stinson, the company will offer charter service throughout southern and eastern Maine. Headquarters is at the Bangor Airport. Officers of the company are: Stewart H. Mosier, president; Jack S. Arnold, treasurer; and Mack Arnold, secretary. James H. O'Brien, director. Chief pilot will be Randolph A. Hallerney. . . . Bush Island lies between the Central Maine Power Company and the Kennebec River at Bowdoin's Island are being painted orange and white so that they may be more easily seen in bad weather. . . . Bowdoin is planning removal of radio range beacon towers at the Bangor Airport. . . . The northeast-southwest runway and the northwest-southwest runway at the Augusta State Airport have been completed. Two more runways are under way as a WPA project. No. 1 runway is 3,200 ft. long. These are under way for the removal of all old National Guard storage building standing on the eastern side of the southwestern portion of the runway. More than 40,000 cu yd of earth have been moved under the improvement program. . . . The Portland Flying Service will construct a new 60-ft. hangar to provide space for new planes, according to Harold P. Street, president.

The Island Camp Dining Co. has been formed at Canton, where it has leased the Caribou Airport from Miss Corrie. . . . New York is in business and Ernest Pretek is treasurer.

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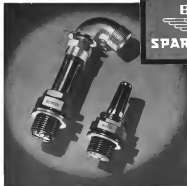
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pet on by Peter Dunn of Holderness in a Nysa, and Arthur Harris of Claremont in an Eagle. The air meet was sponsored by Howard Hartman, manager of the field.

★**NEW JERSEY** — The southeast-northwest runway at Somerset Hills airport, Basking Ridge has been extended 800 ft. . . Standard Flyer Service, Inc., has recently sold a Taylor Cub to S. C. Gandy of CHRYSLER and Ford Hoffman of SOUTH ORANGE. . . THE ATLANTIC CITY Flying Club is planning a flying visit to New York to enjoy a visit made by members of New York's Toward Club.

• NEW YORK — Work was started late on October on a new hangar at the Stewart Airport. The WPA has been paid about \$7,000 and the hangar will contain 10,000 sq. ft. The hangar will be located near the present entrance to the field on the right of the gate. It will be 60x80 ft. Improvements work at Floyd Bennett Field on Miller Blvd. and Greenoak AVE. was scheduled to start late in October. The Glenn Field Chapter of Consumers has purchased the field and will turn it over to the city. The Kennedy Airport has been leased by Capt. H. J. Barnowsky, who will operate a charter service and flying school. Associated with Barnowsky will be A. E. Ashinsky. Barnowsky now has over 20 active students. Albert G. Wright

where, at the AMSTERDAM Flying Service, Inc., have purchased a three at three-quarter acre, which they will occupy as a base for flying to and from. Irving, the management of the B-W Airport in Lakeland, will go to Dr. Hagerman's home next April. Grant will relinquish the field from the present manager, Capt. Russell W. Woldenhausen.

• **NORTH CAROLINA**—By early December plans had been practically completed for leasing the municipal airport at **ELIZABETH CITY** to **D. J. DENTILL**, for a period of one year. Dentill will have exclusive use of the field for commercial purposes, but the lease will not prevent him from operating private use of the airport.

UNION—Airways, Inc., of Cleveland, has purchased the Fleet (wreck) from Tinsley Melick, contractor at Tennessee Airport, Tucson. The life savings, Fort Clinton, has sold a south plane to the fleet. An air show, witnessed by 3,500, was held at the Pioneer Airport early in October. Lt. Joseph C. Marley gave an exhibition of stunt flying. 15 pilots from Cincinnati, Tenn., Dayton, Massachusetts and Connecticut, Kentucky part in a flying contest at Middlebrook Airport Oct. 12. The contest was

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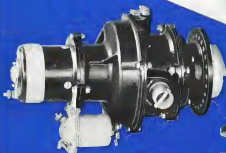
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